

Hardiman's History of Galway

Connacht Tribune

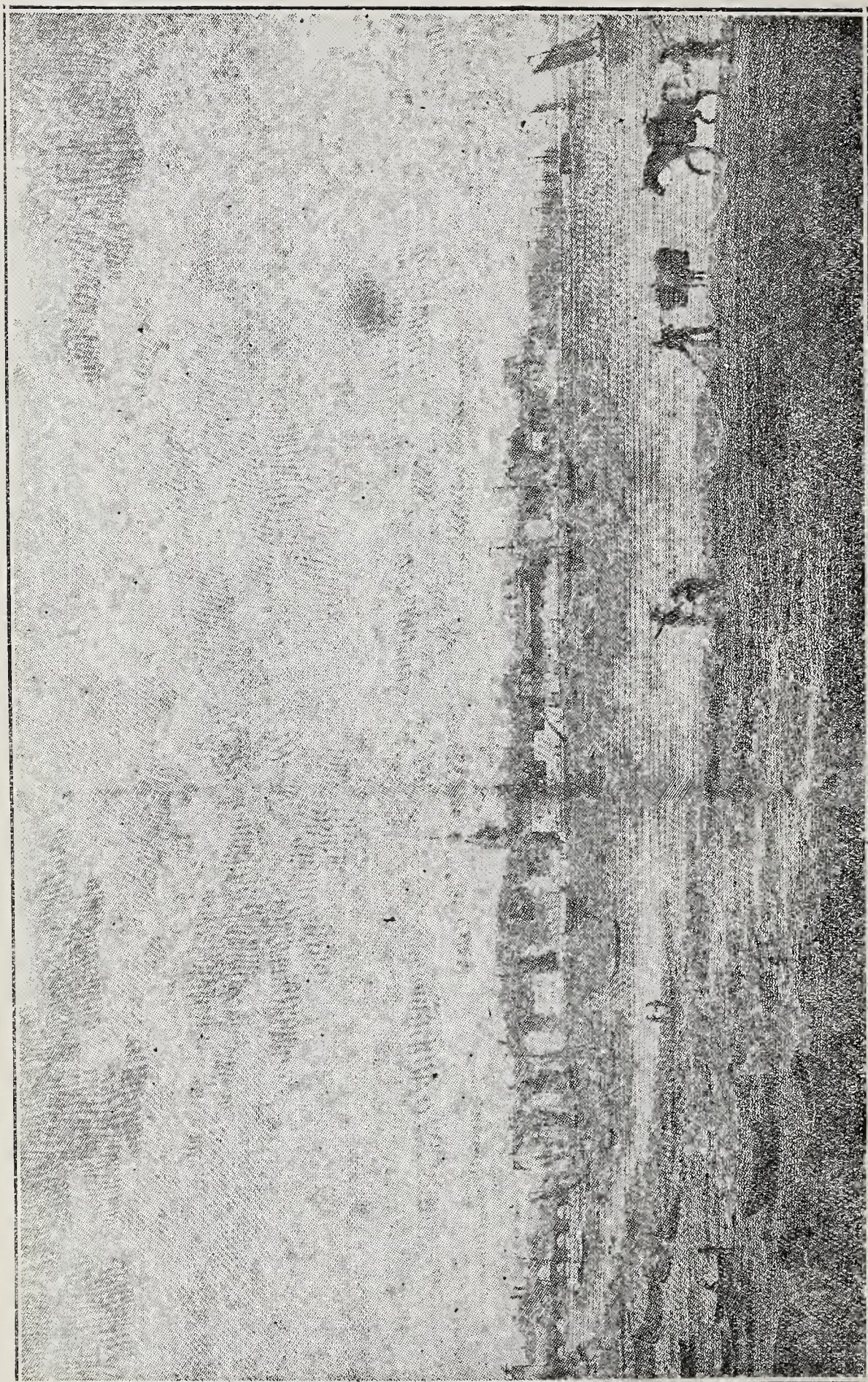


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THE
H I S T O R Y
OF THE
TOWN AND COUNTY OF THE TOWN
OF
Galway,

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME

Embellished with several Engravings.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A COPIOUS APPENDIX.

CONTAINING THE PRINCIPAL CHARTERS AND OTHER ORIGINAL
DOCUMENTS.

BY JAMES HARDIMAN, Esq.

Member of the Royal Irish Academy and Sub-commissioner on the Public Records.

—Historiæ placeant nostrates.

GALWAY :

REPRINTED BY THE "CONNACHT TRIBUNE" PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY,
LTD., MARKET STREET

1926.

TO
JAMES DALY, Esq.,
OF DUNSANDLE,

ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF GALWAY.

SIR.

THE measures now in progress, under your sanction, to improve the town of Galway and promote the convenience of its inhabitants, afford me much additional pleasure in dedicating to you a Work, undertaken with the hope of benefiting that ancient and respectable town, with whose prosperity your interest is so intimately connected. Independently of this consideration, there were others which would have equally induced me to come to the same determination. I felt that I should have to address the descendant of a family to which Galway had been indebted for emancipation from the long-borne thralldom of former corporation influence,—an individual who, with conscious pride, could look back on a line of ancestry, many of them eminently conspicuous in the history of their country. Whose venerable forefather, DENIS DALY, Esq. (the counsellor and steadfast friend of the ill-fated James II.) suggested those measures which would have led to the general pacification of this part of the kingdom, and, perhaps, have prevented the sanguinary battle of Aughrim, unless frustrated by the prevalence of that party which led Ireland into danger, and then abandoned her to her fate. Whose paternal grandfather, JAMES DALY, Esq. first overturned corporation tyranny in Galway, and declined the dignity of the Peerage to remain the vigilant parliamentary guardian of the people's rights, the champion of toleration, and the firm and early advocate of the Catholics of Ireland. Whose distinguished father, the Right Honorable DENIS DALY, (a name with which

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the mind involuntarily associates the idea of all that is worthy and dignified in human nature,) to use the words of his bosom friend and immortal fellow-patriot, HENRY GRATTAN, “ was one of the best and brightest characters that Ireland ever produced.” —The language of adulation, I well know, but too generally pervades addresses of this kind, but that of the present is the language of truth; for I feel myself as much above resorting to any other, as I have been removed from the necessity of doing so. From you, however, I may anticipate the declaration of the celebrated O’NIAL, on some similar occasion: “I ambition not,” said that illustrious Irishman, “so much to derive honour from my ancêstors, as to reflect back upon them the lustre that they have shed upon me.”—Sincerely wishing that you may long enjoy those exalted feelings, which are inseparable from the observance of so noble a sentiment, and still continue the friend and supporter of the town of Galway and its interests,

I have the honour to remain,

Sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

JAMES HARDIMAN

Dublin, 1st Nov. 1820.

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P R E F A C E .

THAT Ireland is not so well known to Great Britain as the interest of both countries requires, is fully evinced by the numerous errors into which some of the best-informed English writers fall when treating of this island; but that it is not, even yet, sufficiently acquainted with itself, is a truth, which, though equally incontestible, appears not to be so generally felt or considered. These defects, which must be evidently prejudicial to the empire at large, have been ascribed to many causes: the only one, however, deemed necessary to be mentioned here, is, that scarcity of useful topographical information, which may be pronounced as great an obstacle to the improvement of this country, as it is an unquestionable reflection upon its literature. While every city and town, nay almost every village and hamlet, in Great Britain, can boast of its history, or illustrative description, the efforts of the pen or the pencil, in a similar way, in Ireland, may be enumerated in a summary note;* and to this deficiency it is that the imperfect knowledge of this part of the empire, above alluded to, may be principally attributed.—To elucidate this by a single example: the whole of the western province, in which the subject of the following attempt at topographical delineation is situate, its natural advantages, former transactions, numerous and respectable families, &c. have hitherto remained almost unnoticed and unknown; insomuch, that it is a fact, no less singular than certain, that the public in general is better acquainted with every particular relating to the most obscure district in the East Indies, or the most insignificant island in the southern Archipelago, than with the affairs of this extensive and populous province. An inclination, in some measure, to remedy this defect, has induced the compilation of the following History of Galway, the ancient, and formerly celebrated, capital of the West of Ireland, which is now, with every degree of deference and respect, submitted to the impartial judgment of an enlightened public.

Amidst the avocations of professional and official duty, the author has spared neither labor nor expense to render the work which he had undertaken as perfect as possible. A desire to become acquainted with the past state and transactions of a place, which presents so many monuments of

*Doctor Smith's Histories of Waterford, 1746; Cork, 1750; and Kerry, 1756—Limerick, by Ferrar, 1767, 1787—the County of Down, by Harris, 1744—County of Dublin, by Rutty, 1772—Carrickfergus, by Mr. M'Skimin, 1811—Armagh, by Mr. Stewart, 1820. City of Dublin, by Harris, 1766; by Ferrar, 1796; and by Messrs. Whitelaw and Walsh, 1810—Mr. Monck Mason's History of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, 1819, (being part only of a greater work, entitled *Hibernia Antiqua et Hodierna*, undertaken by that learned gentleman)—A brief description of Irishtown and Kilkenny, by doctor Ledwich, (first published in Vallancey's *Collectanea*, and afterwards in the doctor's *Antiquities of Ireland*)—and an old Account of Westmeath, by Sir Henry Piers, (also published in the *Collectanea*) comprise all the city or county history of this country worth noticing that has ever appeared. After this enumeration, it is almost unnecessary to add, that many a single shire in England has been more copiously described and better illustrated than the whole of Ireland! To the several statistical or county agricultural surveys no allusion is here made, these publications being very different in their nature from those in the contemplation of the author.

former opulence and respectability, originally led to the idea, and the intention was afterwards promoted by an incident that could not have been previously anticipated. His Majesty's Commissioners for the regulation of the Public Records of Ireland were pleased to appoint the author one of their Sub-commissioners: this circumstance, which threw open many valuable sources of national information, at once determined and enabled him to investigate with greater accuracy the history and antiquities of this ancient and respectable town, and the leisure hours that could be spared from other more immediate and necessary pursuits have been devoted to the purpose. After gleaning considerably from the invaluable archives of Trinity College, the Record Tower, (now comprising the former contents of Birmingham Tower, the parliamentary papers, and those of some of the offices of State) the Rolls, Auditor-general's, Chief-remembrancer's, and other offices in Dublin, including, through the kindness of Sir William Betham, that of the Herald of Arms, he personally visited and carefully explored the principal record repositories in England; and the rich and inexhaustible stores of the Bodleian Library at Oxford; the British Museum, and the Tower of London, have largely contributed to complete his undertaking. The town records of Galway, (including the venerable volume which contains the early acts of the corporation, and which the present possessor values at several hundred pounds,) with the most authentic annals in the Irish language, and many private manuscripts of an interesting nature, have likewise been procured; and every printed work has been perused which was known or supposed to throw any light on the present or former state of the town and province. From the documents thus collected the following work has been compiled; and, whatever may be the opinion formed of its arrangement or execution, it will be found to contain the only embodied portion of local and historical information ever given to the public concerning any part of the West of Ireland.

However curious or interesting works of this nature may appear to resident individuals, they can seldom be expected to excite general attention. Instances might, notwithstanding, be adduced, in which the histories of particular places have been deservedly held in high estimation; and, although the author has no expectation that the following work will ever be numbered among such instances, yet he cannot help thinking that many matters interspersed throughout its pages may be found worthy of consideration, even beyond the narrow limits of the place that gave them birth. While the descendants of those, whose actions are here recorded, will dwell over the memorials of former days, with that lively desire of knowing their ancestors, which, according to the historian, must depend on the influence of some common principle in our nature; every Irishman, concerned for the honor and prosperity of his native land, may perhaps feel a more general interest in the annals of an Irish city of ancient celebrity, in which so many affairs of public importance had formerly been transacted. If taken in a commercial point of view, it will be found that the former inhabitants of Galway, (availing themselves of those natural advantages which their situation afforded, and with which this neglected island, in every

direction, so amply abounds,) gradually rose from a state of comparative insignificance to a high degree of national consideration, and that the town, however extraordinary it may now appear, arrived to a pitch of mercantile greatness superior, with the single exception of London, to any other port in the British dominions.† Even to an English reader, the progress of so flourishing a colony of his own nation, or, as described by itself, “an ancient colonie of English, planted in this nook of the country,” among a people then considered as “English enemies,” may not be altogether unacceptable. To the politician and philosopher it may be useful to detail the various circumstances which led to the decline of a town formerly so celebrated. At the present crisis, also, when so many of his majesty’s subjects are endeavoring, by constitutional means, to become emancipated from those penal inflictions under which they have so long and so patiently labored, the following pages will demonstrate, by many examples, that the principles of Catholics are not incompatible with the strictest observance of loyalty to monarchs of a different persuasion. They will also shew that no diversity of religious opinion, or even severity of treatment under the most rigid enforcement of the penal laws, could ever weaken the allegiance of the Catholics of Ireland as subjects, or influence their demeanour as peaceable citizens. Several most honorable proofs will likewise be found of their most unalterable attachment to the Protestant monarchs of Great Britain, and their representative rulers in his country.—For these, and other reasons, the author has ventured to hope that his labors may not be altogether useless, and even that they may be attended with results superior to those of satisfying mere antiquarian research, or gratifying the impulse of fruitless curiosity.

From the golden rule, *Ne quid falsi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat*, laid down by Cicero as indispensable for every writer who interferes in any of the provinces of history, the author has not intentionally departed; it has been his constant guide; and the anxiety to adhere to it rigidly has, perhaps, extended even to a fault, by the too frequent introduction of the very words of the author or authority, and in many places by encumbering the pages with entire documents; but for this the best apology that can be offered is, the information which these documents will be found to contain. The author’s highest expectation was, that of being classed amongst those writers approved of by Montaigne, who have nothing of their own to insert, and who only take the care and pains to collect every thing that comes to their notice, and to make a faithful register of all things, without choice or distinction, leaving the discovery of the truth entirely to the judgment of their readers.§ He therefore considered that a narrative, whose real value

† “We may be bold to say, that for the situation thereof, voisenage, and commerce it hath with Spain, the Srayts, West Indies, and other places, noe town or port in the three nations (London excepted) was more considerable.”—Original letter from Henry Cromwell and the Irish privy council concerning Galway, dated 7th April, 1657.—Vide p. 138.

§ *P’ayme les Historiens, ou fort simples, ou excellens. Les simples, qui n’ont point dequoy y mesler quelque chose du leur, et qui n’y apportent que le soin, et la dilligence de r’an-asser tout ce qui vient à leur notice, et d’enregistrer á la bonne foy toutes choses, sans choís et sans triage; nous laissent le jugement entier, pour la cognoissance de la verité.*—*Essais de Montaigne*, liv. II. chap. X.

thus depended on its truth, could dispense with the labored ornaments of style; and hence no fact, however apparently trifling, has been sacrificed to brilliancy of sentiment or elegance of diction. The incipient efforts of an individual, but little versed in the art of elaborate composition, must betray defects; but the labor of investigating ancient records, decyphering the rude and mutilated remnants of former times, and the abstracting, arranging and connecting of events, collected with much toil, through the dark periods of antiquity, will, it is hoped, induce the reflecting reader to overlook such inaccuracies, and even entitle this work to a portion of that indulgence, which the most finished productions of human industry are often found to require.

To few only of the living does the author lie under any obligation; but to those few he is largely indebted. The zeal and persevering industry with which his highly respected and valuable friend, Edmund Costello, esq. assisted in obtaining information, particularly concerning the modern state of Galway, can never be forgotten. John Lynch Alexander, esq. with the kind disposition which always marks his character, obligingly communicated several curious documents concerning the ecclesiastical history of the town. From his lamented friend, the late William Nash, esq. of the Rolls Office, Dublin whose goodness of heart was only equalled by the extent of his knowledge, the author received much valuable information. The friendship of William Shaw Mason, esq. (to whom Ireland is much indebted for the measures taken to preserve its ancient legal records, and for the first pervasive effort to develope the actual state of the country,) has also aided his researches. To Charles Blake, esq. of Merlin Park, near Galway, he is obliged for the use of the old corporation book, before alluded to, which contains many curious entries concerning the town for a period of nearly one hundred and seventy years. To the Provost, Vice Provost, and Senior Fellows of Trinity College, he returns his sincere thanks for the condescending attention which he has experienced from that learned body; and to the Reverend Doctors Nash and Wilson he is particularly indebted. To those friends, also, who kindly wished to provide against the heavy expenses attending this work, by promoting a subscription, he is likewise thankful; and, though he declined their offers, he feels grateful for the motives which dictated them. Finally, the author begs leave here to repeat, what he once before expressed at a most respectable meeting in Galway, "that he had voluntarily undertaken the task, without any other view than a hope that it might tend to the honor, and perhaps to the benefit, of their native town; and that, if his work should not possess sufficient merit to support itself, it would, and ought to fall into oblivion; but if otherwise, he entertained no doubt of its favourable reception by a discerning public."

Postscript concerning the Engravings.

With respect to the Engravings, no pains have been spared that they should be properly executed, and that the drawings should be correct. The distant prospect of Galway, and the views of the church, Lynch's castle, the county court-house, bridge, and prison, were taken by an ingenious artist, brought from Dublin solely for the purpose. The armorial bearings, contained in plate II. have been extracted partly from the old map of the town. This latter document, which the author, after much trouble, has been enabled to lay before the reader, affords incontestible proof of the former respectable state of Galway, and is deservedly admired as one of the principal topographical curiosities relating to Ireland.|| A drawing of Lynch's castle, situate in the centre of the town, is given, as it presents a beautiful specimen of ancient architecture, and had formerly been the residence of some of the chief magistrates. The modern plan of the town and suburbs has been made from actual survey, and will, it is hoped, be found generally correct. The miscellaneous plate also contains an assemblage possessing some local interest; and, although the different objects are reduced to a small scale, yet care has been taken that they should all be exactly delineated. The principal engravings have been executed by some of the best engravers which Dublin could afford.

||The author had, for a long time, despaired of obtaining this curious document. The only copy, which until lately, was known to be extant in Ireland, was preserved at Castlemagarrett, in the county Mayo, and the proprietor, very properly, esteeming it as an unique of considerable value, appeared disinclined to hazard its safety by transmitting it to Dublin. An ingenious surveyor of that county declared that he could not furnish a copy of it for less than 100l. In the meantime a duplicate was discovered in the valuable library of Trinity College. Here the author met with no difficulty; his artists was allowed to take a facsimile, which, omitting some of the extra ornaments, has been reduced, and engraved on as large a scale as possible for this work: and thus he has been enabled, though at some expense, to indulge his own wish, and gratify the public curiosity, by introducing (and perhaps rescuing from oblivion) this interesting relic of former times.

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THE
HISTORY
OF
GALWAY.

PART. I.

THE ANCIENT STATE OF THE TOWN, AND ITS CIVIL AND
MILITARY HISTORY, TO THE PRESENT TIME.

CHAPTER I.

The origin and signification of the name of Galway—Opinions of Camden—Ware—Lynch—O’Flaherty, De Burgo and Vallancey—The name derived from commerce—Security of the harbour—Supposed origin of the bay—Derivation of its name—Inhabitants of the town before Henry II.—Subsequent colonies, viz. Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, D’Arcy, Deane, Ffont, Ffrench, Joyes, Kirwan, Lynch, Martin, Morriss and Skerrett—Affiliated families—Former manners and character—Former state and topography—Speed—Heylyn—Sir Oliver St. John—Ancient Map and Ichnography—References—Concluding observations.

THE general opinion concerning etymological inquiries seems to be, that they are rather curious than useful; at the same time it stands confessed, that, in many instances, such disquisitions may become material and interesting, particularly should they lead to the establishment or corroboration of historical facts, or tend to illustrate the ancient state of the places under investigation. With these objects in view, an attempt shall here be made to elucidate the origin and signification of the name of Galway, a point which, though often touched upon by many writers, has hitherto been left undecided.

It is well known that amongst the ancient Irish, all foreigners were indiscriminately termed *Galls*,¹ hence, arose, a supposition, that Galway took its name from a foreign colony alledged to have settled there at an early period. Tradition informs us, that previously to the arrival of Henry II, Galway was but an inconsiderable fishing village, under the protection of an Irish dune or fortress, and that it was then called *Ballinshruane*, or the *town of the little streams*; because, when the winter floods were high in the river, the water flowed through the present scite of the town, and formed it into small islands; in one of which, (where the church of St. Nicholas was afterwards built,) this primitive hamlet was situate. We are further informed, from the same source, that when the English settlers afterwards came hither, they were called by the native Irish *Clan-na-Gall*, the *Foreign clan*, *sept*, or *colony* (an appellation, which however originating, their descendants still retain,) and that the place was from thenceforth named *Ballinagall*, or *Gallibh*, the *Foreigners' town*, or *fortification*. These traditional relations, though to many they might appear probable and satisfactory, are not borne out, but seem rather controverted by written authority. In the life of Hugh Ruadh O'Donnell, hereditary prince of Tyrconnell, written by Cucoigcriche O'Clery, one of the four masters, after relating the sacrilegious burning of the convent of St. Brigid, near Galway, in 1599, by that chieftain, the writer adds, "that the city took its name from the river, in which was drowned *Gallimh*, the daughter of Breasail." ²This derivation receives support from the old map of Galway, (of which a full description will be found in another part of this volume;) it is there stated, that a woman, named *Galva*, was drowned, near a great rock, in the river, (which is delineated on the map,) and that from this circumstance the town originally took its name.

Other antiquaries have, however, given significations widely different. Camden is of opinion that Galway was derived from the *Gallaeci* of Spain, a country with which the town carried on a very early and extensive commerce. Ware, a much better authority, so far as relates to Ireland, says, that the river *Galvia*, or *Galiva*, mentioned in the annals of Roscommon, under the years 1177 and 1190, seems to have given name to the town; but he leaves it to others to discover its meaning.³ Geoffry Lynch Fitz-Dominick, a native of Galway, in his MS. "remarks drawn from antiquity,"

1 "And lastly the Gauls, pouring out of Gallia itself, from all the sea coast of Belgia and Celtica, into all the southern coasts of Ireland, which they possessed and inhabited, whereupon it is, at this day, amongst the Irish, a common use to call any stranger inhabitant, *Gald*, that is, descended from the Gauls."—Spencer.

2 Anno. 1599. Ro loirgead leo van teag Druige fit for ioncaib na catrac rin, .i. Sallim, amnighear o'n abam forr ro badead Sallim ingean Druigat.

3 Flumen Galviam, urbem nomini suo adoptasse videtur, sed nominis rationem venientur alii.—Ware.

and written in 1661, agrees with Ware;⁴ and O'Flaherty, in his *Ogygia*, says expressly that the town takes its name from the river. De Burgo asserts, that *Gallimh*, the name of the town in Irish, is the same as *locus anglorum*, i.e. *residence of the English*, and says, it was very properly so called, because the town was built by a colony which came thither from England about the year 1300;⁵ but this writer appears mistaken as well in his assertion, as in the truth of the fact adduced in its support. The learned Vallancey, who was fond of investigations of this nature, gave several ingenious derivations of the word; at one time he supposes it to be *Galmhaith*, an Irish compound, which he translates *Galway*, and says, signifies a rocky barren country;⁶ at another time he deduces it from *Port-na-Gall*, *Gallorum portus*; and again, from *Gall-amhan*, *Amnis Gallorum*; but he was finally of opinion, that the town received its name from a company of merchants that settled there; *Gael*, derived, according to him, from *Gaelis*, or *Geilis*, traffick or commerce, signifying a *merchant*, and *ibh*, in Irish, signifying *tribes or families*, whence *Gailibh*, *tribes of merchants*.⁷ Of all these conjectures, the latter, being the result of more mature deliberation, appears most entitled to attention, as having approached nearest to the truth, which a brief illustration will sufficiently demonstrate.

From a very early period, and until after the invasion of Henry II. the territory in which the town stands was called *Clanfirgail*, *the land or habitation of the Gail or merchants*.⁸ This circumstance, though unobserved by Vallancey, very forceably corroborates this opinion, both names evidently agreeing in meaning and derivation, and each serving to illustrate, and very satisfactorily to explain, the origin and signification of the other: when, therefore, we consider the weak foundation of traditional report, and the fabulous complexion of the story, attributing the name to the woman, *Gaillimh*, or *Galva*, mentioned by the writer of Donegal, and alluded to on the old map,⁹ it seems most reasonable to conclude, that the town and river

4 His words are "It borrows its name from the river that slides by it, for it was anciently called 'Dunbun-na-Gaillve,' that is, dune of Gallives mouth; for the river was called Gaillve; and Dune, amongst the ancient Gauls, Welch, and Irish, signifying a fortified place or town, the same as the Saxon word Borough--thus, Dunedin was called Edinborough."—Lynch's MS.

5 *Galvia aliis Galliva, anglicè Galway, Hibernicè Gaillibh*, i.e. *locus anglorum*, apposite sic dictus, quia a *Colonis* ex *anglia* in *conacium* profectis. *aedificatus circa annum Christi 1300*—Hib. Dom. p. 322.—In this curious work there is abundance of original and interesting information; but there are, at the same time, many anachronisms, and other errors, which should be carefully avoided.

6 To illustrate this, he instances the Syriack *Gahnitha*, and the Chaldaick *Galmodh*, *durus silex* figurative, *pro Sterilitate, Solitudine*.

7 Essay on the primitive inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland.

8 The chief of Muintir Murchada, with the consent of Cathal, king of Connaught, made a present of the town of Lismacuan, in Clouferg, to the abbot and convent of Knockmoy.—*Ogyg*.—Clouferg, or Clanfirgail, lay on the east side of Loughorbsen, or Corrib; it consisted of 24 villages, in which Galway, Clare and Roscam, are now situate, and was the lordship or dominion of the O'Hallorans, until after the arrival of Henry II.

9 Such catastrophes as that related on this occasion, were, if true, anciently very common, and were frequently assigned, by vague tradition, as giving names to celebrated places, which were adopted by ignorant or indolent chroniclers without further examination—thus, in the annals of Dublin, we are told, that the City took the name of Auliana, from the daughter of Alpinus, who was drowned in the Liffey; that it was changed by Ptolemy into Eblana, and afterwards corrupted into Dublana, that she might be held in remembrance!

of Galway both derived their name from the territory in which they were situate, and that the district itself was originally denominated from the Gael, or merchants, by whom it was inhabited; to strengthen this conclusion, might be adduced the authorities of Tacitus and Ptolemy; add to which, that in the annals of Roscommon, already mentioned, the name of the river *Galiva* is nearly similar in orthography, and entirely so in pronunciation, to *Gailibh*, pronounced *Gallive*, and throughout the most ancient documents, wherein the name of the town appears, down to the year 1400, it is invariably written *Galvy*, in which, the transposition of the two final letters, is the only derivation from the Irish. In process of time the word *Gal-iva*, was altered into *Gal-via*, the literal translation of which, *Gal-way*, first occurs about the year 1440, and from that time, it has remained uniform and unchanged, by any variation to the present day.

Having thus far dwelt upon the etymology and orthography of the name of Galway, it is now time to conclude a disquisition which has already become tedious, leaving the reader fully at liberty to form or retain his own opinion on the subject. - What has been collected, however, appears strongly to support the position, that the town of Galway and the district in which it is situate, were, from an early period, distinguished for trade and commerce, a circumstance from which they derive their name; and, when in addition to these, the excellent situation of the place, its local advantages, and many capabilities for foreign commerce, and inland traffick and navigation,¹⁰ its noble bay, the finest perhaps in the kingdom, and the natural security of its harbour, shall be taken into consideration, powerfully corroborative reasons will be found in favour of the same conclusion.

A curious supposition has been entertained relative to the original formation of the bay of Galway, it is related, in one of the old Irish annals, that in the year of the world 1969, there were but three lakes of any consequence in the whole island, namely, *Loch-Foidream*, said to have been at Slievemis, near Tralee, in the County of Kerry, *Finloch*, the present Loughcarra, in the County of Mayo, and *Loch-Lurgan*, which is described as a spacious lake between the County of Clare and West Connaught, to the South of Galway, and extending a considerable distance towards the east. This lake is supposed to have been the present bay of Galway, which was once, say the annalists, separated from the ocean by strong banks, until the Atlantic bursting over them and uniting with the water within, formed

¹⁰ To open a communication between Killalla and Galway, by means of the Moy, Loughmask, and Loughcorrib, was one of the practical projects of those who were employed to survey the navigable rivers of Ireland in the early part of the eighteenth century, and, if carried into effect, would have proved a most important addition to the internal navigation of this country. They also intended to make the Colgan navigable, or extend its navigation from Galway to the Shannon. Lough Corrib might be easily rendered of extremely important advantage to this part of the kingdom; it spreads its waters over 50700 acres, and disembogues its surplus into the bay, from which it is but three miles distant.—Newenham. Had these great national plans been executed, at the time they were projected, Galway might now, notwithstanding the many political disabilities under which it has since laboured, be one of the most considerable mercantile towns in this kingdom, instead of which, it remains, with all its natural advantages, a melancholy monument of the sad effects of bigotry, prejudice and persecution.

the bay, leaving the three islands of Arran, the towering remnants of the chain or barrier, which were too high to be overflowed by the billows. The position of these islands, with relation to the main land, as it favours, seems also to have given rise to this idea. O'Flaherty says that in his time, a lough in a neighbouring inlet of the sea, was called Lough Lurgan, but how far the entire circumstance is deserving of credit, is left, without any comment, to the judgment of the reader.

It has been generally agreed that this bay was the Ausoba of Ptolemy. Camden and Baxter are however of opinion that Lough Corrib was the place. Ware thinks it the river Galvia which takes its rise out of that lough, and washing the town, falls into the bay.¹¹ Richard of Cirencester makes it Clew Bay in the County of Mayo, but Beauford, with more accuracy, thinks it the bay of Galway, which, he says, was the *Abhsidhe* or *Abhansidhe*¹² of the Irish, and as such, it has been almost universally taken. The writer, last mentioned, states, that the word signifies *Oestuarium*, derived from the Irish, *Auscobha*, a projection of water, and although this might very properly have been classed amongst the other visionary derivatives of the same author, yet it remained uncontroverted, until Vallancey advanced another conjecture, and apparently discovered the significance of this obscure word. In his essay on the primitive inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland, he says "commerce, with the Irish and Arabs, was esteemed honourable, and hence, in both countries, the adjective, *asob*, noble, was prefixed to the word implying commerce, to signify a merchant.—*Asob Gaelibh*, the merchants of Galway, and hence Ptolemy names the bay of Galway *sinus asobus*." Were this far fetched though ingenious supposition correct, it would add considerable weight to the preceding conclusions, concerning the former name and commerce of Galway; but being equally fanciful with the other, it must be abandoned, as one of the etymological reveries of the veteran antiquary, in his endeavours to give an oriental cast to the antiquities of Ireland; nor shall the reader be longer detained on the elucidation of a subject more difficult than important, at the present day, and which shall therefore be consigned to the conjectural inquiries of some abler etymologist.

Of the inhabitants of Galway, previous to the invasion of Henry II., there are no accounts remaining, except by tradition, but some time after that event took place, the town appears to have been inhabited by a number of families, who were principally occupied on the fishings of the

¹¹ O'Flaherty, after combating the assertions of Ptolemy as to the tribes summed up by him, says, that the river was never known by the name of Ausoba, or Ausona, but by the name of Gallimh, "from which," he adds, "Galway, a celebrated town, the capital of Connaught, situate at the mouth of it, has taken its name."—Ogyg.

¹² Windy or Stormy bay, or river, from "Abhan," a river, and "Sidheath, or Sighe," a blast of wind.—O'Brien. Although there can be no doubt, but that the bay of Galway was the Ausoba of Ptolemy, there are many reasons against supposing it to have been the Abhansidhe of the Irish, and particularly if the ancient meaning of this compound word be correctly understood; for, so far from the bay being more exposed than others to wind or storms, as this name would seem to imply, it is, perhaps, the best sheltered and most secure of any other on the extensive coast of the west of Ireland.

lake and bay, and in making short voyages along the coast, their names are given as follow:¹³ *Athy, Branegan,*¹⁴ *Blundell, Brunt, Burdon, Cale, Calf,*¹⁵ *Coppiner or Coppinger, Develin, or Dillin,*¹⁶ *Ffarty, Ffrihin, le Fickhill, Kellerie, Kerwick, Lang, Lawles,*¹⁷ *Moylin, Muneghan, Penrise,*¹⁸ *Sage, Kancaorach, Valley or Wallin,*¹⁹ *Verdon, Weider and White,*²⁰ there were many others, whose names are now buried in oblivion, but who are recorded as having been burgesses of the town. To these early inhabitants and their successors, Lynch in his MS. remarks, before referred to, alludes in the following words, "it was not they who gave any name of credit or fame to the town of Galway, but the colony next after mentioned, for until the latter came hither, this town was but an ordinary place, with only thatched houses and some castles, but it was by the new colonies and septs, made famous to the world, for their trading faithfully, discharging their credit, good education, charity and hospitality both at home and abroad." That this plain but honourable description, though given by a native of the town, was neither the result of partiality nor the effect of prejudice, the reader will find fully illustrated by various examples throughout the course of this work.

The new colonies, here alluded to, consisted of several families, whose descendants, are known to this day, under the general appellation of the "*tribes of Galway*," an expression, first invented by Cromwell's forces, as a term of reproach against the natives of the town, for their singular friendship and attachment to each other during the time of their unparalleled troubles and persecutions, but which, the latter afterwards adopted, as an honorable mark of distinction between themselves and those cruel

13 Several of these names are still to be found here, viz. *Athy, Ffarty, Ffrihin, Killery, Kerwick*, (if, as supposed, it be the same as *Kirwan*.) and *White*; but the remainder are long since extinct.

14 Sir Henry Branegan was warden in 1497.

15 1375, August 16, the Lord Justice of Ireland, being at Limeryk, constituted Clemens Laveragh and John Baudekyn, clerks to inquire and determine concerning a certain transgression on Nicholas Calf, burgess of Galvy, by Thomas Martyn; and also to take assize of novel disseizen, which said Nicholas arraigned against said Thomas and Margaret his wife, concerning tenements in Galvy.—Rot. Pat. 49 Edw. III.

16 James Develin was portreve of Galway in 1451; he is the last of the name on record. This family was succeeded by that of D'Arey.

17 Thomas Laghless and Thomas le Botillor, were constables of Connaught, in 1285.—Rot. Pip. 15 Berm. Tur.

18 This ancient family, which is long since extinct, was descended from Rise, one of the Welch princes, after whom they were called *Rhesi, Risi, or Ap-en-Rise*. Their sepulchre, until lately remaining in the church of the friars-minors of Galway,

pointed out their former consequence. Particular mention is made of Thomas Ap-en-Rise, and his wife, Elcanor, before the year 1280. Stephen Penrise was provost of the town in 1313, he was afterwards bailiff and collector of the new customs, and died 1383. Thomas Penrise, who lived until about the end of the fourteenth century, was the last male heir of his family; he was succeeded by Joan Penrise, who intermarried with Stephen Lynch Fitz-Thomas, of Bridge Gate.—Molyneux Col.

19 This, as well as the last family, was from Wales. In the account of the County of Connaught, from 1279 to 1281, by Henry de Rupe, (Roche) then sheriff, it appears that the king's peace was granted to Howel, son of Crannow le Walesis.—Rot. Pip. 9 B.T.

There are strong reasons to conclude that a colony from Wales settled in part of Ireland about the end of the reign of Henry III. many original Welch names frequently occur in old records about, and long after, that period, viz. Brecknocke, Llewellyn, Howel, and several others.—Vide the rolls in Berm. Tower, passim.

20 Nicholas White was provost of the town in 1347.—Rot. Placit. Edw. III. B.T.

oppressors. These families were thirteen,²¹ in number, viz. *Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, D'Arcy, Ffont, Ffrench, Joyes, Kirwan, Lynch, Martin, Morris and Skerrett*. They did not settle in the town at one time, or on the same occasion, as is generally supposed; but came hither, at different periods, and under various circumstances, as may appear from the following concise account of each of the families composing this peculiar community, which has been compiled from the most authentic documents.

AN ALPHABETICAL LIST AND CONCISE ACCOUNT OF THE ANCIENT FAMILIES OF GALWAY.

Athy.

This family is of great antiquity in Galway; tradition relates that one of the name erected the first stone house or castle within the town. They were from the earliest times highly respectable, William de Athy was appointed treasurer of Connaught, 8th December, 1388, with the fee of £10 yearly—*Rot. Pat. Canc.*—the name was also of consequence in other parts of Ireland. John de Athy was sheriff of Kerry, 7th Edw. II.—*Rot. Mem. Scac.*—on 3d March, 17th of the same King, he was appointed marshall of Ireland—*Eod. de an.* 18°—and the 20th year, he was sheriff of the counties of Carrickfergus and Antrim.—*Rot. Pat.*—Philip Lynch Athy, Esq. of Renville, is the present representative of this family.

Arms. Checky, argent and gules, on a chevron of the last, three estoiles, or. *Crest.* A demi lion rampant. *Motto.* Ductus non coactus.

Blake.

This family is of British extraction, and, though the name seems derived from the Saxon, Blac, a colour; yet, Debrett, in his Baronetage says, “they are traditionally descended from Ap-lake, one of the knights of King Arthur’s round table,” and adds, “that in the reign of Henry II one of this family accompanied Strongbow, and after many exploits built himself a castle, at Menlo, near Galway.”—Richard Caddell²² surnamed Blake, (from whom, according to Lynch’s MS. the Blakes of Galway are descended,)

²¹ According to those who include the ancient name of Deane, there were fourteen families, it is accordingly inserted in the accounts above given, and is also found in the following verse:

Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, Deane,
Darcy, Lynch,
Joyes, Kirwan, Martin, Morris, Skerrett,
French.

²² Caddell seems to have been the original name, and it continued indiscriminately in use with the other for many centuries. On 20th January, 1564, Nicholas Blake alias Caddell, of Bally-

macro, died. Nicholas Caddell, alias Blake, of Galway, merchant, died in January, 1620, seized of Kilturroge, (mortgaged to David Bodkin,) Kiltullagh, and several houses and lands in and about Athenry. Walter Blake alias Caddell, of Ballymacroe, died in January, 1623; he vested his property in Thomas Lynch, M.D. Nicholas French and others as trustees, for the use of his son, John Blake alias Caddell.—Ing. Rolls Off.—This name has since fallen into disuse in Galway; but has been retained by the family of Caddellstown, in the County of Meath.

The Armorial Ensigns

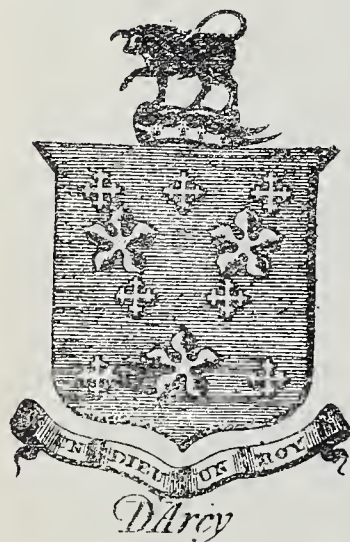
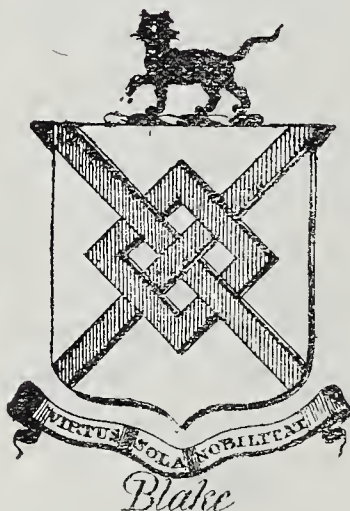
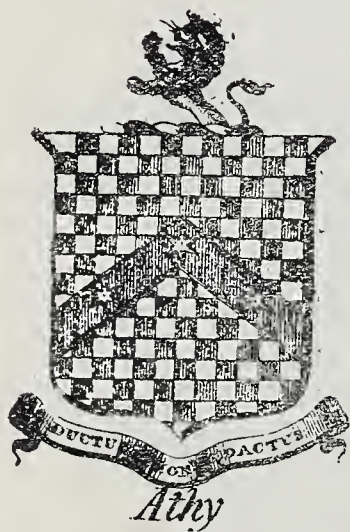
of the

FOURTEEN ANCIENT FAMILIES

of

Galway

1820.





Ffont



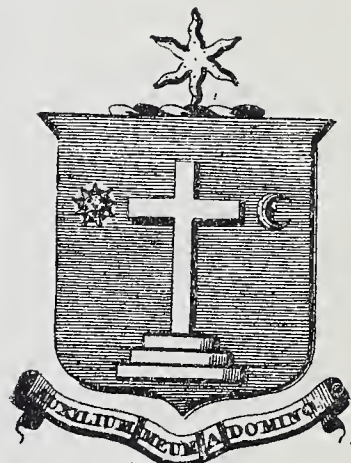
Joyes



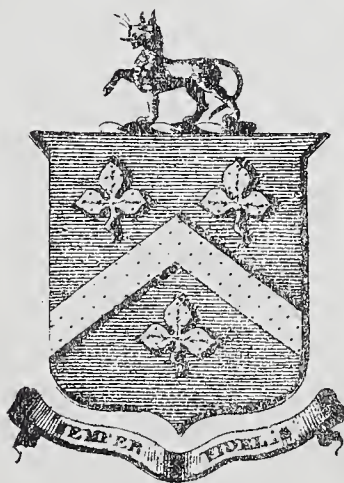
Ffrench



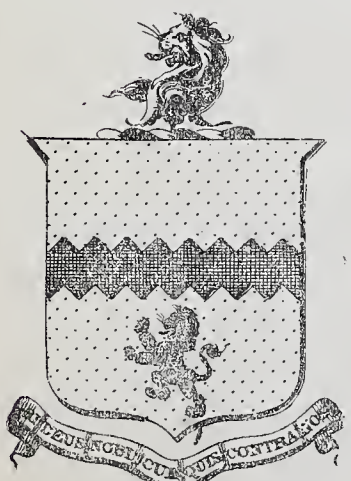
Kirwan



Martin



Lynch



Morris



Skerrett

was sheriff of Connaught, *Vicecomes Conaciæ*, 32 and 33 Edw. I, ²³ he was also sheriff in 1306, and in 7 Edw. II. the king's writ issued, for arrearages of his account.—*Rot. Mem.*—The arms of this family were first borne by him and descended to his posterity. The family of Ardfry, descended from Sir Richard Blake, who was speaker or chairman, of the assembly of the confederate catholics of Ireland, at Kilkenny, in 1647, was raised to the dignity of the peerage, in the year 1800, in the person of Joseph Henry Blake, Esq. who was then created Lord Baron of Wallscourt, in the kingdom of Ireland. This widely extended name is, at present, divided into the opulent and respectable families of Ardfry, Ballyglunin, Belmont, Castle-grove, Corbally, Forbough, Frenchfort, Hollypark, Killeencastle, Mace, Menlo, Merlinpark, Moorfield, Orancastle, Rahara or Annbally, Renville, (formerly of Lehinch, in Mayo,) Tully, Waterdale and Windfield, in the County of Galway; and Ballinafad, Brookhill, Garracloone, Milltown and Towerhill, in the County of Mayo.

Arms. Argent, a fret, gules. *Crest.* A cat passant, gardant, proper. *Motto.* Virtus sola Nobilitat.

Bodkin.

The Bodkins of Galway, and the Earls of Desmond and Kildare, were descended from the same common ancestor, Maurice FitzGerald, Lord of Windsor, and one of the first invaders of Ireland, under Strongbow. His son, Thomas FitzMaurice, acquired ample possessions in Munster, where his descendants became Earls of Desmond. Richard, the son of Thomas, about the year 1242, held considerable properties in Connaught, under Richard de Burgo, and Thomas, his son, was the ancestor of the Bodkin family. This family name originated, according to tradition, from a victory gained by their great progenitor, Thomas Fitz Richard (about the year 1300,) over a valiant Irish knight, whom he encountered in single combat, and having, in the conflict, made use of a short spear or weapon, in Irish called, a *Baudekin*, he was, from that circumstance, surnamed, *Buaidh Baudekin*, of the victory of the *Bodkin*, which name was afterwards retained by his descendants. Whatever doubt may attend this traditionary relation, none can exist as to the origin and descent of the family, which are fully ascertained by the testimony of antiquaries, by ancient stone sculptures and monuments, still remaining, and from the genealogies of the Geraldines, whose arms the Bodkin family bore for many generations, and whose motto, *Crom aboo*, they retain to this day.²⁴ Henry Bodkin, the son of Thomas, was *Clericus ville* in the reign of Richard II. at which time, there was a

²³ Finglas Breviate.—The following entry of his appointment has been lately found;—*Mem.* that on the 21st October, 31 Edw. I. Richard Blake was appointed Sheriff of Connaught, by letters patent of this exchequer; which the treasurer and barons delivered to Richard de Bermingham, late sheriff of the said County, to be brought to Connaught, and delivered to the said Richard Blake,; afterwards on the 15th day of November, came here, the said Richard, and was duly sworn, &c. —*Rot. de eod. anno.*

²⁴ In a curious MS. collection of genealogies, written principally in Irish, but in some instances in English, transcribed in Irish character, and now in the possession of the author, there are a few

street or lane in Galway, called *Baudekyn's lane*. They were then possessed of large properties in and about the town, particularly at Newcastle, near the river;²⁵ and at Athenry,²⁶ Toberskehine, Ballynameatagh, Kilcornan and Parke. At present the principal families of the name, are those of Annagh, Carrowbeg,²⁷ Castletown, Kilcloony and Thomastown.

Arms. Ermine, on a saltire, gules, a leopard's face, or. *Crest.* A leopard's face, or. *Motto.* Crom aboo.

interesting details of some of the Galway names, which have been abstracted for this work.—Of the Bodkin family, it appears that the name was originally Poitcin; but no clue is given, which might lead to its meaning or derivation. They are stated to have descended, “from the true stock of Maurice FitzGerald, who was lineally descended from Otho, a noble prince of Italy.—That Leo, the first who took the surname of Poitcin, (which he did in consequence of a misunderstanding with his nephew, Maurice FitzGerald, who intermarried with Agnes, the daughter of Richard Mor, Prince of Wales, then Governor of the castle of Pembroke,) was son of Walter, who was great grandson of Otho, an Italian nobleman, from whom descended the most honorable family of the FitzGerald of Desmond and Kildare, and the FitzGerald of Ireland in general, as our ancient and authentic annals give account.”—Augustinus Poitcin, the son of Leo, intermarried with Anne (daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Lawellin, alias Dewellin; (which family is originally descended from Diwillin, who was proprietor of Kiltullach, Doughase and medan, anno 1270,) whose son, John Poitcin, or Bodikin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of Maurice Lynch, the son of John, from whom descended Henry Lynch, and many other noblemen of that name.—Andrew Mor Bodkin intermarried with Margaret, daughter of Sir William Bure of Anaeh-caoin, whose son, John Mor Bodkin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of John Mor Darcy of Partry, by Anne, daughter of O'Flaherty, whose son, Austin Bodkin, intermarried with Celia, daughter of Sir Geoffry Browne of Galway, whose son, John Mor Bodkin, intermarried with Mary, daughter of Gregory French, whose son, Leo Bodkin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of Thomas Lynche, Lord of Ballygarrain, whose son, Marcus Bodkin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of Robert Mor Blake of Ardfray, whose son, Andrew Bodkin, intermarried with Elis, daughter and co-heiress of John Dathi, (Athy,) lineally descended from the true stock of Daithi mac Fiochrach, from whom also sprung O'Seachnasy of Gort, and many other nobles, not here mentioned.—John Mor Bodkin, his son, had by Anna French, daughter of Geoffry French, Andrew Bodkin, who married Anastasia,

daughter of John Mor Mearick, whose son, Leo Bodkin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of Richard Martin, whose son, Marcus Bodkin, intermarried with Celia, daughter of Peter French, whose son, Austin Bodkin, intermarried with Mary Blake, daughter of John, son of Walter Blake, whose son, James Bodkin, intermarried with Caitilin, daughter of Thomas reabhach Darcy, whose son, Marcus, intermarried with Sheela, daughter of James Lynch, Mayor of Galway in 1493, by whom he had issue, Leo, Marcus, John, Austin, and Andrew Bodkin, with whom the account of the family closes.

The MS. from which the foregoing extract was taken, appears to have been written, at intervals, from some time previous to 1500, down to 1671, by the family of O'Luinin, Lynegar, or Linacre, who are frequently styled throughout, hereditary Ard-Ollamhs, chief doctors, or antiquaries of Ulster and of Ireland. In a certificate signed Patriek O'Luinin, alias Lynegar, and dated from his residence, at Ard O'Luinin, in Inismore, or the great Island, in Lough-erne, 2d. Oct. 1632, he states that he received “these genealogies, from his ancestors, chief antiquaries of Ireland.” The Irish descents, contained in this collection, have been found correct; but the authenticity of the Anglo-Norman pedigrees, (amongst which are those abstracted for this work,) is questioned by the present Deputy Ulster King of Arms, whose opinion is entitled to every attention, from his extensive knowledge on these subjects.

25 A grant to “Walter, son and heir of Richard, Clerk of Galvy, otherwise called Richard Bawdekyn of Galvy, of the custody of the Islands called Bushe-yland and Gote-yland of the town of Galvy.” Dated at Drogheda, 11th September, 1421.—Rot. 9 Hen. v.

26 Richard Bodkin, Burgess of Galway, was Provost of Athenry, in 1454.

27 The family of Carrowbeg, descended from the principal of the name, was deprived, in the time of Cromwell, of the greatest part of its extensive possessions, which were assigned to Lord Limerick, but afterwards reverted back, by purchase, to the ancient inheritors. The Skerrett family relate that the estate of Carrowbeg, formerly belonged to them, but passed into that of Bodkin, through a marriage with an heiress of their name.

Browne.

Philippus de Browne, is said to have come to Ireland in 1170, and, in 1172, was appointed Governor of Wexford. In 1178 he went to England, and soon after returned with 60 armed knights, and was a leader at the siege of Limerick.²⁸ He had three sons, William, who settled in the territory of Clanmorris, in the County of Kerry, and Walter, who settled in the County of Galway, where his posterity still remain; the destination of the third son is not mentioned. Another account states, that "Sir David Browne, who was cotemporary with Richard de Burgo, the Red Earl of Ulster, that he died in 1303, and had a son, named Stephen, who settled at Killpatricke, near Dublin, from whence, after a time a branch of that house settled at Brownstown, near Loughrea, and thence branched forth to Athenry and Galway."²⁹ The principal families of the name at present in the province, are those of Ardskea, Gloves, Kilskeagh, Mounthazle, Moyne, Rockville and Tuam, in the County of Galway, and, Ballyhowly and Castlemagarret, in the County of Mayo.

Arms. Or. an eagle displayed, with two heads, sable. *Crest.* An eagle's head, erased.³⁰ *Motto.* Fortiter et fideliter.

D'Arcy.

This family stands highly distinguished in the annals of the kingdom. Its descent is derived from David D'Arcy, (of an eminent family in France, which deduces its origin from Charlemagne,) who took his surname from Castle D'Arcie, his chief seat, which lay within thirty miles of Paris. His

²⁸ 6 Vol. Pedigrees, Office of Arms.

²⁹ 1 Vol. ditto.—The MS. collections of O'Luinin, before referred to, contain the following account of this family.—"The genealogies of the Brownes of Ely, or Mullrancain, in the County of Wexford, and partly of the Brownes of Galway, Limerick and Waterford."—Christopher and Richard Browne, were the sons of Sir Mathew Browne, of Mullrancain, by his first wife, Anne, the daughter of Sir John Redmond, who resided near Bag and Bun in the County of Wexford.—By his second wife, Cardula, daughter of Sir John Hore of Shankill, near Dungarvan, he had issue, 6 sons.—1. Christopher—2. John, who went for Connaught, and settled himself at Neale, where he married Mor ny Maille, daughter and heiress of Donal O'Maille, Lord of Umhaille in the County of Mayo, whose issue still remain, and are called Brunach na heille.—3. Walter, who went to the County of Limerick, and settled in Kilpeacan, near Limerick; he married Catherine, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John FitzGerald, Knight of the Glen.—4. Edward Browne, who settled at Killeaden near Waterford, and married Anne Power, daughter and heiress of John Power.—5. Sir David Browne, who

settled near Galway, and married Bevann ny Flahertie, daughter of Morough O'Flahertie, of West Connaught, "from whom is descended Sir Dominick Browne, whose issue now inherit a considerable estate, in and about Galway, and in the County of Mayo."—Then follows, "the true lineal descent, with an exact account of the genealogy of Sir Mathew Browne's ancestors, with all the intermarriages, since the first of the family came to Ireland, in 1169, all which was rescued from oblivion, by the Rev. Father in God, by Divine Providence, John Browne, Bishop of Ferns, and sent by him to Sir Patrick Linegar, to be inserted in his books of antiquity, amongst the rest of the nobility of Ireland." Notwithstanding all this parade, it is certain that the account given of John, the second son of Sir Mathew Browne, is incorrect. The many noble and distinguished houses of the name in Mayo, viz. Westport, the Neale, Brownestown, Brownehall, Breafty, and Turin-Castle, whose progenitors settled there in the reign of Queen Elizabeth) are of English descent, and no way connected in their origin, with the Brownes of Galway.

³⁰ The Crest on the map, two eagle's heads, addorsed..

son, Christopher, having, with a band of his vassals, joined the crusades, died in Palestine, leaving Thomas his heir, whose son, Sir Richard D'Arcy, accompanied William the Conqueror to England, where, after he was settled that monarch enriched him with ample possessions, which some of his posterity still enjoy.³¹ From him descended, Sir John D'Arcy, who was high in repute with Edward II. by whom he was appointed justice of Ireland in 1323. He married the Lady Jane Bourke, daughter of Richard, Earl of Ulster, from which marriage are derived all the D'Arcies of this kingdom.³² The Galway family is immediately descended from James *Riveagh* D'Arcy, who settled here about the end of the reign of Elizabeth, and, in conse-

31 1 Vol. Pedigrees, Office of Arms.

32 The following extract is taken from a memoir, drawn up by one of this family, as a note to the last edition of Lodge's Peerage of Ireland, the orthography of the name is left unaltered. Sir John Darcy, by his marriage, was ancestor to the Darcies of Platten, Kiltolla, Clunuan, Gorteen and others, in Ireland; having issue by her, a son, William, and a daughter, Elizabeth, married to James Earl of Ormond; William, the son, was born at Maynooth in 1330, and having divers lands assigned him, in recompence of his father's services, he settled at Platten in the county of Meath, and by Catherine, daughter of Sir Robert Fitzgerald of Alloone, in the County of Kildare, had John Darcy, Esq. who by a daughter of — Petyt, Palatine Baron of Mullingar, had William his heir, whose wife was Anne, a daughter of the family of Barnwall of Crickstown; by whom he had John D'Arcy, Esq. who married Margaret, daughter of the Lord of Slane. He had two sons John and Nicholas.

John, the elder son, took to wife Elizabeth, daughter of Edmund, Lord of Killeen, ancestor to the Earl of Fingal, and was father of Sir William Darcy of Platten, who in 1523 was appointed vice-treasurer of Ireland.—Nicholas, the youngest son, was a captain of horse, and being stationed in the county of Mayo, married Jane, daughter and heir to O'Duraghy, of Partry in that county, who brought him the large estate of that family, and by her he had Thomas, the father of Conyers, whose son Nicholas had James (Riveagh, the swarthy,) and Richard, whose only daughter being married to Robert Blake of Ardfry in the county of Galway, Esq. was mother of Sir Richard Blake, who was speaker or chairman of the supreme council of the confederate Catholics at Kilkenny in 1648.

James (Riveagh) Darcy was a person of such interest and power in Connaught, that he was appointed vice-president of that province in the reign of Elizabeth, and was chief magistrate of the town of Galway, as his monumental inscription set forth (V. præses Connaciæ, prætor Galviæ,) in the Franciscan friary of Gal-

way. He died in 1603, leaving seven sons and one daughter, viz. Nicholas (whose two sons, James and Dominick, died childless, the elder of whom a barrister at law, settled his large estate in the Counties of Galway, Mayo, Roscommon and Clare, on his first cousin, James Darcy of Kiltolla, Esq. the son of his youngest uncle Patrick, (to be mentioned presently) Martin, (from whom the Darcies of Clunuan in the County of Clare derive,) James, (ancestor to the families of Ballybocock, Gurteen, Houndswood and Tuam) Anthony, (from whom the Darcies of Brest, in France, descend; and who had also two daughters, Catherine, who married Marcus French, Esq. ancestor to the Frenches of Rahasane, in the County of Galway; and Anastace, to James Daly, of Carrownekelly, in that County, Esq. (Mark, Andrew, (whose daughter was married to Richard Martin, Esq. councillor at law, ancestor by her to the Martins of Tulliry, in the County of Galway); Patrick, of whom presently. The daughter was Anastace, married to Sir Dominick Browne, of Carrowbrowne, in the County of Galway, knight, by whom she had Geoffry Browne, Esq. (ancestor to the family of Castlemagarrett, in the County of Mayo,) and four daughters, of whom Mary, the eldest, being married to Major John Browne, of the Neale, had George of the Neale, John of Westport, ancestor to the Earl of Altamont and Dominick of Breafy, all in the County of Mayo.

Patrick Darcy of Kiltolla in the County of Galway, Esq. the seventh son of James (Riveagh) Darcy, was born in 1598, and was educated in the profession of the law, he was an active member of the parliament assembled at Dublin, in 1640, and published, "an argument delivered by Patrick Darcy, Esq. by express order of the House of Commons, in the parliament of Ireland, 9th of June, 1641," he died at Dublin in 1688, and was interred at Kilkenny, in the County of Galway, leaving issue by Elizabeth, one of the four daughters of Sir Peter French, an only son James, born in 1633, who married Frances Trushot, daughter to a gentleman of Brittany, and captain of a ship of war

quence of his superior abilities and address, rapidly acquired considerable power and influence. From him sprung in a direct line the house of Kiltulla, and the families of Newforest, in the County of Galway, (formerly of Clunuane in the County of Clare), Gorteen and Houndswood, in the County of Mayo.

Arms. Azure, semee of cross crosslets, three cinquefoils, argent. *Crest.* On a chapeau, gules, doubled ermine, a bull passant, sable, corned, unguled, and furnished, or. *Motto.* Un Dieu, un Roy.

Deane.

The first of this name, that settled in Galway, is said to have been William Allen, or Den, who came hither from Bristol in the reign of Henry VI. and was afterwards elected Provost. Members of this family, were amongst the first Mayors and Chief Magistrates of the Town.³³

Arms. Azure, three wings, two and one, argent. *Crest.* A demi lion rampant, azure. *Motto.* Arte vel marte.

under Lewis XIII. (by his wife Anne Keating, maid of honor to the queen of Charles I.) and dying in 1692, left issue, Anne, Francis, Brigid and Clare, and an only son, Captain Hyacinth Darcy of Kiltolla, born in 1665, who married Catherine, daughter of John Darcy, of Gorteen, in the County of Mayo, Esq. and died in 1743, at Teranasker, in the County of Galway, having had issue by her, who died in 1750, nine sons and three daughters, viz. Patrick Darcy of Kiltolla, Esq. (whose wife was Anne, only daughter of Walter Blake of Oranmore, in the County of Galway, Esq., but had no issue,) John (who married Jane, daughter of Sir Robuc Lynch, of Corondollo, in the said County, Bart. and died in 1743, leaving Hyacinth, who married Frances, daughter of Henry O'Brien, of Stonehall, Esq. and by her, who died 21st October, 1753, had Patrick, Frances and Henrietta); John, who in 1752, married Catherine, daughter of Isidore Lynch, of Drimcon, in the County of Galway, Esq. Patrick, a member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris; James, (who married first Jane, daughter of Richard Martin of Dangan, in the County of Galway, Esq. by whom he had an only son Richard, who in December, 1751, married at Bourdeaux, the daughter of — Kirwan, then a rich American widow, and by his second wife Mary, daughter of Mr. Mathew Shee of Nantz, he had an only daughter Margaret); Martin, (living at Paris, in 1752, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Darcy, of Brest, Esq. great, great grandson of James (Riveagh) Darcy; Hyacinth, who died unmarried; Stephen (whose wife was Anne French, of the family of Rahasane, and his issue were, Peter, Hyacinth, Patrick, Stephen, John, Catherine, Anne, and Anastace); Francis unmarried;

Walter, (who married Anastace, one of the six daughters of John Darcy, of Gorteen, Esq.); Silvester died unmarried: daughter Anastace, (married Denis Daly of Rafford, in the County of Galway, Esq. whose son and heir, Denis of Ramore, Esq. in June, 1735, married the Lady Anne Burke, elder daughter of Michael, Earl of Clanricarde); Frances, (married to Robuc French of Duras, in the County of Galway, Esq.) and Catherine unmarried.

³³ The following anecdote, relating partly to a member of this family, is too remarkable to be passed over.—It was frequently related to many persons still living, by a respectable old gentleman of the name of French, who was born in Galway, in 1701, and lived to a very advanced age.—After the surrender of Galway, to the forces of Cromwell, a distinguished colonel in the army, (who was a native of Virginia, and whose name was conspicuous in the history of the times,) was appointed governor.—At that time, there dwelt in the town, a merchant, whose name was Deane, this man dealt extensively in the tobacco trade, and the circumstance soon attracted the attention and inquiry of the governor, who, having become acquainted with Deane, and with the nature and extent of his traffick, at length proposed to become a partner with him in the business; which, from his own connexions and influence in Virginia, he promised would turn out highly beneficial. The other readily embraced the offer, and the partnership proceeded with mutual advantage, and was attended with considerable profit. Reciprocal benefits begat confidence and friendship; Deane was frequently invited to the governor's house, where, in the warmth of their private convivial moments, the latter was accustomed to exclaim, in an exulting manner,

Ffont, or De Fuente.

This family settled in Galway in the beginning of the fifteenth century, they sprung from an ancient English family of Leicestershire, and, are said, to have been established in Athenry, in the County of Galway, as early as the reign of King John.³⁴ The name is now nearly extinct. Geoffry Ffont, who died near Galway, in 1814, aged 105 years, is supposed to have been the last survivor of the Galway branch of this family.

Arms. Argent, semee of cross crosslets, a lion rampant, sable. *Crest.* A demi lion rampant. *Motto.* []

Ffrench.

This family is descended from Sir Maximilian Ffrench, the first of the name, whose descendants accompanied their kinsman, William the Conqueror, into England.³⁵ Their original place of settlement in Ireland, together with many other English and Anglo-Norman adventurers, was the

at the same time, holding up his right hand, "I tell thee Stephen, this hand knows the strength of Charles Stuart's neck."—Every reader acquainted with the history of England, is aware, that the names of the executioners of that unfortunate monarch have never been discovered. All that is known with certainty is, that two of them attended, disguised in masks, one with a grey and the other with a black beard, and that after the former severed the head, the other held it up, streaming with blood, and cried aloud, "this is the head of the traitor."—Friendship or fear influenced Deane to keep secret the extraordinary revelation which he had heard, until after the restoration, but then he frequently mentioned the circumstance; immediately upon that event the governor suddenly disappeared, and the place of his retreat remained unknown, until a Mr. French from Tyrone, near Galway, happening to be in London, accidentally met him in the street, disguised as a pedaller, hawking tobacco for sale. Struck at this sudden change in the fortunes of the man, who so recently before was in the full exercise of unlimited power, extending even over life and death, but now reduced to the most abject state of misery; Mr. French could not help expressing regret for his situation, particularly as the object of his compassion had, in general, exercised his power with humanity and moderation. The unfortunate governor, with tears in his eyes, desired to step into an adjacent shop, and promised, in a few moments, to follow and explain the entire; French accordingly complied, but after remaining a considerable time the other neglected to attend, and, as the story goes, was never afterwards heard of.—As to Deane he was enabled by the profits of the partnership, to purchase the considerable

estate of Balrobbuck, near Tuam, which, until very lately, continued in the possession of his descendants.

34 10. Vol. Pedigree Offices of Arms.—In 10 Henry IV. William de Ffont, had a grant of the King's peace.—Rot. Cl. B.T.—and 15 Henry VI. his son Thomas had Stephen Fonte, was married to Juliana Kirwan; Francis, their son, married, in 1626, Maria, daughter of John Athy of Galway; their son Dominick Fonte, who had a grant of lands in the County of Galway from Charles II. married Anna Dillon of Longhlin in the County of Mayo; Francis de Fonte of Boyle their son, married Margaret, daughter of John Blake of Dromorenagh in the County of Mayo; their son, Edward de Fonte, of Boyle, married, in 1690, Maria Gibbons, whose daughter and sole heiress, Bridget, married Peter Bath, Esq. of Knightstown, in the County of Meath, and died in 1778. a writ of exemption from assize, &c.—Rot. Cl. ib.—Walter Ffonte, Esq. of Galway, his son, married to Evelyn Kirwan, had issue, Thomas Fonte, who was married to Elinor French, whose son, Martin Fonte, Mayor of Galway, was married to Juliana Lynch of Skreene, whose son,

35 The following extract relative to this name is taken from the MS. pedigrees of O'Luinin before referred to.—"The genealogy of the Ffrenches of England, lineally descended from Sir Theophilus Ffrench, a most valiant knight, who accompanied William the Conqueror, in his expedition to England, and was present with him at the great battle of Hastings, deriving his pedigree, from Sir Maximilian de Ffrench, who was son of Harloven junior, son of Harloven, son of Rollo the strong, alias Robert, first Duke of Normandy; as Sir Thomas Hawley, king of arms, in England, 28 Henry VIII. gives an account, in the ancient and

County of Wexford;³⁶ from whence, in process of time, they gradually spread throughout the other parts of the kingdom. Two families of the name settled at different periods in Galway, the first, with Walter French, in the reign of Hen. VI. about the year 1425, and the other, with Henry Begg Ffrench, in the reign of Elizabeth; since which time, they have ranked amongst the most considerable in the Province. The family of Castle Ffrench, near Ahascragh, in the County of Galway, was raised to the dignity of the Peerage, in the year 1798. The Right Honorable Charles Baron Ffrench, of Castle Ffrench is the present Lord. The other branches of this respectable name, are those of Ballinahalla, now of Beagh, Carrorea, Elmhill, Ffrenchgrove, Monivea, Portcarn, Rahasane and Tyrone in the County of Galway, Ballykeneave and Culliane in the County of Mayo, and Foxborough, Frenchpark, Port, Rocksavage and Snipehill, in the County of Roscommon.^{36a}

Arms. Ermine, a chevron, sable. *Crest.* A Dolphin, embowed, upon rocks, proper.³⁷ *Motto.* One heart, one mind.

Joyes or Joyce

This old Galway family is of ancient and honourable English descent, and was allied to the Welch and British princes. Thomas Joyes, the first of the name that came to Ireland, sailed from Wales in the reign of Edward I. and arrived with his fleet at Thomond in Munster, where he married

authentic annals of that kingdom."—Sir Humphrey French, knight banneret, married Arabella, daughter and Heiress of Sir Charles Harley, of Ormuck, in Wales, knight; and by her had issue, five sons and two daughters, viz. Christopher, Walter, Patrick, Nicholas, John, Mary, and Julian Ffrench.—"From Christopher and Walter are descended the families of Ffrench of England, and from Patrick and Nicholas, are derived the family of the Frenches in Ireland, who seated themselves, in the lands of Balle-ma-cuoec, near Wexford, as the Bishop of Ferns gives an account in his annals.—Patrick French had a son, named Walter, who settled near Galway, in Connaught, where he married the daughter and sole heiress, of John Athie, of a worthy family, of great antiquity, and from him are descended the family of the Ffrenches of Connaught."—John, the fifth son of Sir Humphrey Ffrench, is stated to have settled in Scotland, where he married Jane, daughter of the honorable James Lindsey, third brother of Thomas, Earl of Crawford, from whom descended the family of the Frenches of Scotland, and the account concludes, with the pedigree of Sir Humphrey Ffrench, descended from Maximilian, the first of the name.

³⁶ James French and Laurence Brown, burgesses of Wexford, were elected by that town, to serve as representatives in the parliament summoned to meet at

Westminster, in 1376,—Cal. of ancient chart.—It is rather a curious coincidence, that the late Lord French, was elected Catholic delegate to the town of Wexford.

^{36a} A branch of this family removed from Galway to the County of Roscommon at an early period, and from it descended the family of Frenchpark, in that County. Their cemetery, in the old abbey of Clonshanville, in the County of Roscommon, bears their arms with this inscription,

"Pray for the soul of Patrick French Fitzstephen, of Galway, Burgess; who lived in this world eighty six years."

Richard French FitzPeter, died in March, 1628, possessed of the ruined castle and lands of Dongendricke, Gragalabane, Tounlagihie, the castle of Menlagh, &c. in the barony of Tyaquin, Tyrnekille and several other lands in Iar Connaught; of which he enfeoffed Jasper Ffrench, Patrick Ffrench, Marucs Lynch and others of Galway, to the use of his son, Nicholas, junior.—Patrick Begg Ffrench, died 6th February, 1630, seized of the Castle of Monyvea, with the lands of Plenemoedra, Derryadda, Knoeketober, Carralcagh and Gortemerrin, which descended to his son and heir, Robert Ffrench.—Inq.

³⁷ On the map, en ermine spot.

Onorah O'Brien, daughter of the chief of that district; from thence, putting to sea, he directed his course to the western part of Connaught, where he acquired considerable tracts of territory, which his posterity still inhabit. While on the voyage, his wife was delivered of a son, whom he named *Mac Mara, son of the sea*, he extended his father's acquisitions, and from him descended the sept of the Joyces, a race of men remarkable for their extraordinary stature, who, for centuries past inhabited the mountainous district, in *Iar Connaught*, called, from them, *Duthaidh Sheodhoigh*, or *Joyce country*, now forming the barony of Ross, in the County of Galway, and for which they were formerly tributary to the O'Flaherties.³⁸ Walter Jorse, Jorze or Joyce, brother of Thomas, Cardinal of Sabina, of this name and family, was Archbishop of Armagh, he resigned in 1311, and was

38 Mac Mara Joyes was first married to the daughter of O'Flaherty, prince of *Iar Connaught*. The most remarkable of his descendants, besides the above, was William Joyes, who was married to Agnes Morris, being on his travels from Italy to Greece, he was taken prisoner by the Saracens, and brought to Africa, from whence, after a variety of adventures, and undergoing a captivity of seven years, he escaped to Spain; while here, his exalted virtues were rewarded by heaven, according to the pedigree of this family, in an extraordinary manner; for, as they relate, an eagle flying over his head, pointed out to him a place, where he discovered vast treasures; with which returning to Galway, he contributed large sums towards building the walls, church and other public edifices of the town. He died, leaving three sons, James, Henry and Robert, and was interred in the Franciscan friary.

Heaven was again propitious to another of this family; Margaret Joyes, great grand daughter of the above named William, who was surnamed, Margaret na Drehide, Margaret of the Bridges, from the great number which she built. The story of this singular woman is still current amongst her descendants. They relate she was born of reduced but genteel parents and was first married to Domingo de Rona, a wealthy Spanish merchant, who traded to Galway, where, he fell in love with, and married her; and soon after departing for Spain, died there, leaving her mistress of an immense property. Upon his decease, having no issue by him, she married Oliver Oge Ffrench, who was Mayor of Galway in 1596. So far the narrative is probable and consistent but what follows will try the credulity of the reader. It relates that this lady, during the absence of her second husband, on a voyage, erected most part of the bridges of the Province of Connaught, at her own expense! and, that as she was one day sitting before the workmen, an eagle, flying over her head, let fall into her lap, a gold ring adorned

with a brilliant stone, the nature of which no lapidary could ever discover. It was preserved by her descendants, as a most valuable relique, in 1661 (the date of the MS. from which this account is taken,) as a mark supposed to have been sent from Heaven, of its approbation of her good works and charity!! This fable though still piously believed, by some of this family, was humorously ridiculed by Latocnaye, an incredulous French traveller, who visited Galway about the end of the last century.

Cornet Joyes commanded the guard that conducted Charles I to the scaffold, but it does not appear that he was of this descent.

Several individuals of this name have long felt grateful to the memory of William III. from the following circumstance, on the accession of that monarch to the throne of England. One of the first acts of his reign was to send an ambassador to Algiers, to demand the immediate release of all the British subjects detained there in slavery, the dey and council, intimidated, reluctantly complied with this demand. Among those released, was a young man of the name of Joyes, a native of Galway, who, fourteen years before, was captured on his passage to the West Indies, by an Algerine Corsair; on his arrival at Algiers, he was purchased by a wealthy Turk who followed the profession of a goldsmith, and who observing his slave, Joyes, to be tractable and ingenious, instructed him in his trade in which he speedily became an adept. The Moor, as soon as he heard of his release, offered him, in case he should remain, his only daughter in marriage, and with her, half his property, but all these, with other tempting and advantageous proposals, Joyes resolutely declined; on his return to Galway he married, and followed the business of a goldsmith with considerable success, and, having acquired a handsome independancee, he was enabled to purchase the estate of Ragoon, (which lies about two miles west of the town,) from Colonel Whaley, one of Cromwell's old officers.

succeeded by his brother Roland. The former was confessor to Edward II. and was author of several works,³⁹ The families of Joyes-grove in the County of Galway, Oxford in Mayo, and Woodquay in the town of Galway, with that of Merview, near the town, are the present descendants of this old family.

Arms. Argent, an eagle displayed, with two necks, gules, over all Fess Ermine. *Crest.* A demi wolf-rampant, argent, ducally gorged, or.⁴⁰ *Motto,* Mors aut honorabilis vita.

Kirwan.

This name and family are Irish, and the heralds have gone very far back indeed to deduce their origin. They tell us, that Maoldabhreac, son of Fiobhrann, son of Finghin, descended from Heremon, second son of Milesius, was father of Ciorrovan or Kirrovan, from whom the Kirwans are descended.¹ They appear to have settled in Galway, in the reign of Henry VI. about which time, the name first occurs in its modern form, mention being then made of William Kirwan and his children. Some think them much more ancient, supposing them to be the family of Kirwicke, already enumerated amongst the more early inhabitants of the town;² and this supposition is very probable, as the orthography of the name has undergone various changes, viz. O'Quirivan, Kyrvan, Kerovan, Kirevane, &c. but it is now generally written Kirwan. To this name and family, Ireland is indebted for two individuals, of the first order of genius, men whose splendid talents have raised their native country to a most elevated point in the scale of literature and science; by those the reader may easily anticipate, are meant the celebrated Dean Kirwan, and his distinguished relative and friend, the late Richard Kirwan, Esq. of Cregg; the former, acknowledged to have been the first christian orator of his day, and the latter, one of the greatest philosophers of the age in which he lived. Biographical accounts of these eminent men, will be found in another part of this volume. The families of Blindwell, Castlehackett,³ Cregg,⁴ Gardenfield, Glan, Hillsbrook

Joyes having no son, bequeathed his property to his three daughters, two of whom only were married, one, to Andrew Roe French, ancestor to the late Andrew French, of Rahoon, to whom, in addition to their own, the unmarried sister left her third; the second daughter was married to the ancestor of the late Martin Lynch, a banker, who, in her right, inherited the remainder of the estate. In gratitude for this act of King William, this family long after solemnised his accession to the throne by bonfires, and his victories in Ireland by exhibiting Orange lilies, on the 1st and 12th of July. Some of Joyes' silver work, stamped with his mark, and the initial letters of his name, are still remaining. A very curious pedigree of this family, is recorded in the Office of Arms, Vol. 10.

³⁹ Ware and De Burgo.

⁴⁰ This is the crest on the map, that now used, is a Demi Griffin, segreant.

¹¹ Vol. Pedigrees, Office of Arms.

² The following record seems to support this opinion—In the year 1432, Alex' Lynch, Henry Blake, Richard Styven, and Walter Kervyk, or any three or two of them were appointed the king's justices, to enquire of all treasons, felonies, &c. as well within the franchise and liberty of Henry (Athenry,) as within the franchise and liberty of the town of Galvy in Con-naught.—Rot. Pat. 10 Hen. VI.

³ The estate of Castlehackett, belonged originally, as the name imports, to the Hackett family, by whom the castle was erected. From them it passed, at an early period, to a branch of the Burkes, who were afterwards expelled by Cromwell, and transplanted to Owen near Lough Corrib, Castlehackett was parcelled out to

and Woodfield, in the County of Galway; and Dalgin, in the County of Mayo, are the principal of the name.

Arms. Argent, a chevron, between three shelldrakes, sable, beaked and legged, gules. *Crest.* A shelldrake close, sable, beaked and legged, gules. *Motto.* J' aim mon Dieu, mon Roi et mon Pais.⁵

Lynch.

This is one of the most ancient, and, until the middle of the seventeenth century, was one of the most leading families in Galway. In the old volume of pedigrees, preserved in the Heralds office, it appears, that, "William le Petit, came to Ireland, in 1185, with Sir Hugh de Lacy, who granted him, by his charter, Macherithirnar, &c. (now the barony of Macherydernan, in the County of Westmeath,) except the Logh and Town of Dysart; that they were palatine barons of Molingare, and that William le Petit, had a son, Nicholas,⁶ who was ancestor to the family of Lynch of Galway.⁷ William, (or according to other accounts,) John de Lynch, was the first

one of his officers; who disposed of his interest to Sir John Kirwan, (a gentleman, who amassed a large fortune in the West Indies, and was Mayor of Galway, in the reign of James II.) from whom the present respectable family is descended. The name of Mr. John Kirwan, of Castlehackett, will be long remembered in the annals of racing and horsemanship. He stands distinguished for preserving the best breed of racing cattle in the empire.

Sir John Kirwan, was the first who, (in 1689,) introduced glass windows, in the modern form, in Galway, in place of the small leaden lattices then used, and many of which remain to the present day.

4 Piers Kirwan Fitzelement, died 17th April, 1618, seized of the lands of Creggan, Lavally, Ballytrasny, Leighearroroe, &c. which he vested in Marcus Blake, Nicholas Lynch Fitz Jonakin, and John French Fitz Peter, of Galway, merchants, as trustees for his son, Clement Kirwan.—*Inq.*

The latter, who was the great grand father of the late Richard Kirwan, Esq. built, in 1648, the Castle of Cregg, in the County of Galway; which was the last edifice of that description, erected for the purpose of defence, in this part of Ireland.

5 Some members of this family use the motto, "God's providence is our inheritance."

6 Randal le Petyt and Adam le Petyt, resided in Connaught, in 1270, and Jordan de Exon was then Sheriff.—*Rot. Pip. No. 4.*

7 Tradition, and some documents in possession of some members of this family, differ materially from the above account. These state that they were originally from the City of Lintz, the capital of upper Austria, from which, they suppose the name to have been derived; and, that

they claim descent from Charlemagne, the youngest son of the Emperor of that name. That Sir Hugo de Lynch, a general under William the Conqueror, came to England with that monarch, in whose estimation he stood very high, and from whom he received considerable favours. That the first of the name, who came to Ireland, was Andrew de Lynch, to whom Henry II. gave large possessions, in the vicinity of Castleknock near Dublin. That his youngest son, John Lynch, who was married to the daughter of William de Mareschall, was the first of the name who settled, about the year 1261, in Galway, and that from him all the Galway Lynches are descended. They also state, that the Lynches obtained their armorial bearings from the following circumstance, one of their name and family, being governor of Lintz, (long before the invasion of England by the Conqueror,) defended that city with unexampled fortitude, against a powerful enemy; and though from the uncommon length of the siege, all their provisions were consumed, and the garrison reduced to the miserable extremity of subsisting on the common herbage of the fields, he was finally victorious. His prince, among other rewards of his valor, presented him with the trefoil on a field azure, for his arms, and the Lynx, the sharpest sighted of all animals, for his crest, the former, in allusion to the extremity to which he was driven for subsistence during the siege, and the latter, to his foresight and vigilance, and, as a testimonial of his fidelity, he also received the motto, *semper fidelis*, which arms, crest and motto, are borne by the Lynch family to this day. Their mansion-house occupied the extensive square on which the present lower citadel or shamle barrack stands.

settler of the name in Galway, he was married to the daughter and sole heiress of William de Mareschall, and, it is stated, that the eldest branch of the family, was called Mareschall, until the male line became extinct. During the greatest part of the 15, 16 and 17th centuries, they possessed the principal authority within the town. Dominick Lynch Fitz John, commonly called Dominick *dubh*, in 1484 solicited and procured the charter of Richard III. under which he caused his brother, Pierce, to be elected first Mayor, and was himself the second. His son Stephen, at the same time, sued out and obtained the bull of Innocent VIII. which established here that singular ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the wardenship. Thomas Lynch Fitz Ambrose. was the last catholic mayor in 1654, when the ancient inhabitants were dispossessed by Cromwell; and during a period of 169 years, 84 members of this family, were mayors of Galway. The eldest line of the Lynches. from which the younger branches sprung, was distinguished by the appellation of *Cranmore*, which means, the great tree or stock; and the house of Newcastle, descended from *Emon-a-Tuane*, who lived in 1342, claimed this distinction. The present lineal descendants of this family, are, the Count Lynch late Mayor of Bourdeaux, (who so eminently distinguished himself in the cause of the royal family of France, against Buonaparte,) and his relative, John Lynch Alexander, Esq. of Galway. The respectable families of Barna, Cartron, Clough, Drimcong, Lavally, Lydican, Moycullen, Rathglass, and Shannonbridge, in the County of Galway, Duras in the County of Clare, and Ballycurren, Castlecarrá or Ball, Clogher and Partry in the County of Mayo, are now the principal of the name.

Arms. Azure, a chevron, between three trefoils, slipped, or. *Crest.* A Lynx, passant, argent. *Motto.* Semper fidelis.

Martin.

This family is of early origin in Galway. Their pedigree relates, that Oliver Martin was the first of the name, that settled in Ireland, that he was a follower of Strongbow, and that the name was derived from Martius, warlike. Some antiquaries, however, are of opinion, that they were of ancient Irish descent. O'Brien and Vallancey, say, "they are derived from the belgian firbolg, or Martini, Ir. *Mairtinigh*, respectable remains of which still subsist, in the Cities of Limerick and Galway." Richard Martin of Dangan or Ballineinch Castle, Esq. is descended from the eldest branch of this family, and the houses of Curraghmore, Ross, Spiddle and Tullyra⁸ are numbered amongst the most respectable in this Province.⁹

⁸ The memorable Act, 8 Ann, chap. 3, he might enjoy his estate, to him and his heirs, and settle and dispose of the same on his eldest son, and his heirs, males, &c. after reciting that Oliver Martin of Tulliry, County Galway, Esq. was, during the rebellion, a person who behaved himself with great moderation, and was remarkably kind to numbers of protestants in distress, many of which he supported in his family, and by his charity and goodness, saved their lives, &c. enacted that

sect. 39. This solitary instance of then legislative justice is particularly conspicuous, because it stands alone, and surrounded by the most unjust and "ferocious" enactments, that ever disgraced the code of any civilised country.

Four miles west of Galway, near Barna, are the remains of an old castle, which

Arms. Azure, a calvary cross, on five degrees argent, between the sun in splendor, on the dexter limb, and the moon in crescent, on the sinister, or.¹⁰ *Crest.* An etoile wavy, of six points, or. *Motto.* Auxilium meum a Domino.

Morriss.

This family first settled in Galway, in 1485, the name was then written Mares, it was afterwards changed to Morech,¹¹ and finally assumed its present form. Nothing particular occurs on record relating to this family, except that several of its members served the offices of Mayor and Sheriffs, and were otherwise active and distinguished in the affairs of the former corporation. Their descendants reside at present, in the town, and at Spiddle, in the County of Galway.

Arms. Or. a fess dauncettie, a lion rampant, in base, sable. *Crest.* A lion's head, erased, argent, guttee de sang. *Motto.* Si Deus nobiscum quis contra nos.

Skerrett.

This old and respectable family is of considerable antiquity in Galway, the name was originally Huscared; and they derive their origin from a noble English family, one of whom, Roger Huscared, is mentioned by Dugdale, as a judge, at a very early period. Robert Huscared, or Scared, held lands in Connaught, under Richard de Burgo, in 1242. In the registry of the monastery of Athenry, Walter Huscared and Johanna his wife, are mentioned amongst the principal benefactors of that foundation; and Richard Scared or Skeret, who is supposed to have been their son, was Provost of Galway, in 1378. To him belonged, the estate of Ardfrý, in *Mearuidhe*, and other lands about *Clare-yn-dowl*, now Clare Galway to the friars minors; of which convent, he bestowed a piece of ground, on which, part of their monastery was built. Some of these lands are held by his descendants to this day. The principal branches of this name, at present, are those of Ballinduff,¹² Carnacrow, Drumgriffin and Nutgrove in the County of Galway and Finvarra and Funchien in the County of Clare.

formerly belonged to the O'Hallorans, the Lynch family acquired this ancient inheritance, by marriage, with an heiress of that old Irish sept.

9 Francis Martin, of Galway, merchant, died 6th September, 1616, seized of the four quarters of Ballyglasse, the cartron of Roskibegg, the quarter of Corrowreagh, the cartron of Kilcornan, in the County of Mayo.—Robert Martin, died 20th April, 1622, seized of several lands in Iar Connaught.—Jasper Martin, died 12th April, 1629, seized of the lands of Ross, Caslah, Litter, &c. and the cartron of Selernymore, in mortgage from murragh O'Flaherty, all which descended to Robert Martin, his son and heir.—Inq.

10 These splendid armorial designs, are

stated to have been granted by King Richard I. to an ancestor of this family, named, Oliver Martyn, who accompanied that monarch, as a commanding officer to the holy wars; and distinguished himself in Palestine, but, on his return, he was made prisoner, in Germany, with his master and died in confinement.—Pedigrees, Vol. 10.

11 Vide the old corporation book and map.

12 Edmond Skerrett, ancestor of the family of Ballinduff, and head of the name, resided, in 1641, at the Castle of Ath-kin or Headford; he was expelled by Cromwell, and his castle and estate transferred to Hartley St. George. Mr. Skerrett and his family were transplanted to

Arms. Vert, a chevron, or, between two squirrels, counter sejant, in chief, and one in base, proper. *Crest.* A squirrel, sejant, proper.¹³ *Motto.* Primus ultimusque in acie.

From the foregoing brief notices of the descent and origin of the principal families of Galway, the reader may be enabled to form an adequate idea of their rank and antiquity; but another, and perhaps more important feature in their character, yet remains to be developed. From the earliest period, they were celebrated for commerce, and for many centuries were classed amongst the most considerable merchants of Europe. Their wealth was consequently great, and the ample landed properties, which they gradually acquired by purchase, from the native Irish, throughout the Province of Connaught, are now enjoyed by their numerous and opulent posterity. During the earlier periods of their career, they carefully avoided all connexion with their surrounding neighbours;¹⁴ in consequence of which, added to the circumstance of the town being so remotely situated from the civilised parts of the kingdom, the inhabitants were necessarily obliged to intermarry amongst themselves, and in progress of time, their degrees of kindred so much increased that they became, as it were, one family, and in many instances, it was a difficult matter to effect a marriage amongst them, without an ecclesiastical dispensation, a circumstance, which in some cases, is still known to occur. As civilization, however, increased throughout the country, when the channels of communication were gradually opened, and intercourse became more general, and was less attended with danger, the natives of Galway extended their connexions, and their names now appear inrolled in some of the most respectable pedigrees of Ireland, amongst whom may be ranked, the noble houses of O'Neil, Ormond and Clanricarde, with many others of considerable rank, property and influence in the kingdom.

Besides the names already enumerated, there are many other families, who, though not similarly distinguished, were equally ancient and respectable, as well from length of residence in the town, as through alliance with the other inhabitants, by whom they were gradually affiliated, and finally considered, without any distinction, as members of the same body. Of

Dountis near Foxford in the County of Mayo, where his descendants remained until 1688, when they returned to the County of Galway, and purchased from a Mr. Burke, the castle and estate of Ballinduff, where the family has ever since continued. This castle is still in perfect preservation, and is delightfully situated, on the banks of Lough Corrib. The late Archbishop Skerrett of Tuam, was descended from this family.

The estate of Poulmarohmy, about a mile west of Galway, in possession of the Skerrett family for centuries, was acquired by purchase, from one of the ancient Irish sept of the O'Hallorans, who were the original proprietors of the entire district.

¹³ The above is the crest on the map.

the modern one is a demi griffin, segreant. The motto, "manus hæc inimica tyrannis," is also used by members of this family.

¹⁴ In their proper places, throughout this work, will be found several curious rules and bye laws of the old corporation, prohibiting all intercourse with the native Irish. In 1518, they ordered that none of the inhabitants should admit any of the Burkes, M'Williams, Kellys or any other sept into their houses. "That neither O, ne Mac, shoulde strutte ne swagger, throughe the streetes of Gallway;" and the following singular inscription, was formerly to be seen over the west gate;

"From the ferocious O'Flaherties
"Good Lord deliver us."

these families, the principal were, *Barrett*,¹⁵ *Bermingham*, *Burke*, *Butler*, *Crean*, *Fallon*, *Lambert*, *Nolan*,¹⁶ *Port*, *Quin* and *Tully*. The *Coleman* family¹⁷ is also recorded, at an early period; and particular mention is made of Edmond Coleman, from whom one of the Blake family, is said to have acquired the ancient castle and estate of Menlo. The name of *Craddock* occurs early in the fifteenth century, the *Moores*,¹⁸ *Beggs*, *Sempers*¹⁹ and *Tierneys*, were also old natives of Galway; and many of the descendants of these different families, still reside in the town and its vicinity.

Having thus far treated of the names and origin of the former inhabitants of Galway, their manners and character next claim attention; and of these, the reader will be presented with the most satisfactory testimonies. Respectably descended, the citizens always preserved a due respect for their own dignity; and from the earliest period, ranked with the first orders of the community. Learning and science, were received and cherished, within the town, during periods, wherein the rest of the kingdom, with very few exceptions, was immersed in the most profound ignorance; and, in the reign of Elizabeth, we find the accomplished and celebrated Sir Henry Sidney, (who was then Lord Deputy of the kingdom, and who often visited Galway,) declaring,²⁰ that for urbanity and elegance of manners, the inhabitants equalled those of the most refined community; and, that like the people of Marseilles, in France, they contracted no stain from their rude and unpolished neighbours.²¹—Sir William Pelham, Lord Justice of Ireland, who arrived in Galway, in 1579, states, that, “the townsmen and wemmen,

15 As far back as our national records extend, the sept of the Barrets was numerous and opulent, in Connaught; and chiefly in the baronies of Erris and Tyrarwey, in the County of Mayo. They frequently occur in various ancient documents during the reign of Henry III. and for centuries after that period, and were the most powerful of the numerous clans in that district, viz. the Bourkes. Linnots, Clanpadins, Cusacks, Carownes, Claddonnells, and others.—In 1607. died Pierce Barrett of Balleskery, the son of Pierce, whose ancestor, Mc. Padin, was seized of considerable possessions.—Richard Boy Barrett, died in 1622, seized of Aghe-downe and Akchill, in Erris.—Edmond Barrett, died in 1623, seized of the castle of Duncroaghane and Dowlagh; and Edward Dorough Barrett, died in 1628, seized of Rathrogan, &c.—Inq.—The civil wars, which afterwards ensued, deprived this sept of all their extensive property.

16 This family was, formerly, of the first rank and opulence, and is still wealthy and respectable. Thomas Nolan of the castle and town of Ballinrobe, Esq. who died 18th June, 1628, was possessed of most extensive landed possessions: to which his son Gregory succeeded, and out of which his widow Agnes Martin had dower.—Inq.—This property was confiscated, in the civil war of 1641, but a considerable part still remains in the families of

Loughboy, Ballinderry and Ballybanagher.

17 Thomas Coleman, was public notary of the town, from 1561 to 1573.—Corp. Book; Lib. A.

18 The Moores of Bryes, whose properties were formerly so extensive in the County of Mayo, were of this family. On 24th March, 1625, John Moore, of Bryes, Esq. sold six cartrons of land, in the town and fields of Dowra, in that County, to Patrick Ffrench Fitz Oliver, of Galway, merchant.—Inq.

19 Edmond Semper, of Athenry, Gent. died 8th May, 1625; he was seized of the lands of Monyscribe, Coldragh, Lissinas, Bealagare, &c. which descended to his son John Semper, and his widow Margaret Barry.—Id.

20 Lynch in vita Kirovani.

21 Formerly Missilia, an ancient and renowned City of Provence in France, inhabited by a colony of Phœnicians, who, flying from the Persian yoke, settled there, and for many ages afterwards retained their own manners, customs and laws, cultivated the arts and sciences, and were particularly distinguished for learning and philosophy, though surrounded by many barbarous nations. In these latter particulars, no comparison could be more exactly just, than that between this celebrated people and the former inhabitants of Galway.

present a more civil show of life, than other townes in Ireland do;²² and, in Sir Oliver St. John's description of Connaught, in 1614, they are thus described, "the merchants are rich, and great adventurers at the sea; their commonaltie is composed of the descendants of the ancient English families of the towne, and rarelie admit any new English amonge them, and never any of the Irish; they keep good hospitalitie, and are kind to strangers, and in their manner of entertainment, and in fashinninge, and apparallinge themselves and their wives, do most preserve the ancient manner and state, as much as any towne that ever I sawe."²³ These are the highly respectable descriptions, given by the first characters then in the kingdom, of the former inhabitants of Galway; as to their actions, together with those of their descendants, their public spirit, wealth and independance, and the persecutions and sufferings, under which they long afterwards laboured, they will be found fully detailed in the subsequent parts of this work; to which, for the present, the reader is referred, this being considered the most convenient place to describe the former state and topography of the town.

In the year 1610, Speed, the celebrated English antiquary, visited Galway; and his description of the place, sufficiently indicates its then importance. "The principal city," says this accurate writer, "of this province, and that, which may worthily be accounted the third in Ireland, is Galway, in Irish *Gallive*, built in manner much like to a tower; it is dignified with a Bishop's See,²⁴ and is much frequented with merchants; by reason whereof, and of the benefit of the road and haven, it is gainful to the inhabitants, through traffick and exchange of rich commodities, both by sea and land."²⁵ About the same time, Heylin, the historian, describes Galway as the third city of the kingdom for extent and beauty; and relates an anecdote, worthy of his own words, "Galloway, a noted Emporie, and lately of so great fame with foreign merchants, that an outlandish merchant, meeting with an Irishman, demanded in what part of Galloway Ireland stood; as if Galloway had been the name of the Island, and Ireland only the name of some town." But the most particular and interesting account, at this period, is that contained in the description of Connaught, by Sir Oliver St. John, in 1614, before alluded to: he states, "the Province of Connaught hath only two corporations, the antient monuments, of the English conquerors, and inhabited only by English families and surnames; the one is Galway, a walled towne and port of the sea, latelie made a Countie, and governed by a Maior and two Sheriffs. The towne is small, but all is faire and statelie buildings, the fronts of the houses (towards the streets) are all of hewed stone, uppe to the top, garnished with faire battlement, in an uniform course, as if the

²² Lambet MS.

²³ Id.

²⁴ By this he meant the wardenship, a curious map of the town, accurately whose possessions, dignity and extent of drawn by himself, of which is here given jurisdiction, formerly equalled those of an exact engraving. some episcopal sees.

²⁵ Speed's Theatre of the World, Edit. 1611. To this description he has added

whole towne had been built uppon one modle. It is built uppon a rock, invironed almost with the sea, and the river; compassed with a strong walle, and good defences after the ancient manner, such as with a reasonable garrison, may defende itselfe against an enemye."26

Such are the accounts given of Galway, upwards of 200 years ago, by visitors and strangers, who were eye witnesses of the state of the town, and described it as it appeared to them at the time; but the enthusiasm of the old inhabitants, when mentioning their native place, their ancient pride and boast, and the source and centre of all their wealth, happiness and connexions, was almost boundless; one of these, after giving a short description of the town, bursts forth into the following exclamation:—and, as Jérusalem seemed to the Prophet Jeremiah, the princess among provinces, the beauty of Israel; so, thou, O Galway, dost to me appear, of most perfect beauty;²⁷ nor will the reader be surprised at this, when he hears the following description of the town, given even at a subsequent period, by Henry Cromwell and the Privy Council of Ireland: "we may be bold to say, that for the situation thereof, voisinage and commerce it hath, with Spaine, the Strayts, West Indies and other places; *noe towne or port in the three nations (London excepted) was more considerable*, nor, in all probability would more encourage trade abroad, or manufactures at home, than this, if well improved."²⁸ The increase, improvement and continual additions of strength to the town, by the erection of several strong bulwarks and fortifications, for nearly half the seventeenth century, and, particularly, during the civil wars of 1641, will be found described in their proper places. The reader is here presented with a complete and curious delineation of the place, as it appeared in its most perfect condition, after these improvements were made, formed under the following peculiar and interesting circumstances, and which will, for ever, remain an indelible memorial of the former flourishing state of this once considerable town.

In the year 1651 the Marquis of Clanricarde, then Lord Deputy of the kingdom, entered into a treaty with the Duke of Lorrain, to obtain twenty thousand pounds for the King's service in Ireland; for this sum, he agreed to give the City of Limerick and town of Galway as security; and directed his Commissioners, Lord Viscount Taafe, Sir Nicholas Plunket and Geoffry Browne, Esquire, "particularly to describe unto the Duke, the value of the security, the strength and situation of the places and the goodness and conveniency of the harbours, &c."²⁹ for this purpose, a map of the town was made, which, after the restoration, (when the antient inhabitants were restored, by the Crown, to their freedoms and estates,) was finished blazoned and described by the Rev. Henry Joyce, then warden; and afterwards elegantly engraved, at the expense of the Corporation, and dedicated to King Charles II.

26 Lambeth MS.

27 Lynch, (author of *Cambrensis ever-*
sus.) in *vita Kirovani*.

28 Council Book, A. 30, page 255, 7th

April, 1657.

29 Clanricard's *Memoirs*, London 1757,
fol.

Description of the old Map of Galway.

This curious document, of which there are but two copies now known, with certainty, to be extant,³⁰ is composed of nine separate sheets, and is six feet six inches broad, and four feet six inches high; it is surrounded by a border, four inches deep, the top margin is headed by the following inscription: 1. PRELUDIUM OPERIS—*Heri, Hodie et in Secula*. 2. TOTIUS LABORIS OBLATIO—*Domino consecratur monarchiæ*—it contains four circular equestrian engravings of Charles II. one, in each corner, and the two others, at equal distances.—Round the first is the inscription, *Carolo II. Dei gratia, magnæ Britanniæ Regnorum et Franciæ, Regi*—round the second, *Carolo II. Dei gratia, majoris Scotiæ, regnorum et Hibernorum omnium, regi*:—round the third, *Carolo II. Dei gratia, locorum seu regionum quarundam, in mundo et meridie regi*: and round the fourth, *Carolus II. Dei gratia, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ, Rex*.

On the first sheet, in the top margin, between the first and second effigies of Charles II are engraved the armorial bearings, 1. of England and the Saxons, *Angliæ et Saxonum*; 2. of Scotland, *Scotiæ minors et albanorum*; 3. of Wales and the Britons, *Walsiæ et Britanorum*, and 4. of France, *Franciæ et Gallorum*; and between them these words, *FUIT, de transactis seculis, tempore elapso, prepositio*.—*EST. de currente seculo, momento presenti, demonstratio*.—*ERIT. de futuris, et hora novissima, demonstratio*. *CONDITIO RELIGIOQUE—Analogie seu similitudines, quibus, locorum qualitates, hominumque devotio et regia majestas dignoscuntur*.—between the first and second arms there are also these words, *sicut cinamonum et balsamum, aromatizans odorem dedit*.—between the second and third, *Quasi libanus incisus vaporavit habitationem suam*—and between the third and fourth, *Quai myrrha electa dabit suavitatem odoris*.

On the second sheet, in the top margin, between the second and third effigies of Charles II. are engraved the armorial bearings, 1. of Munster, *Momonix*, 2. of Connaught, *Conatiæ*, 3. of Meath, *Midix*, 4. of Leinster, *Lageniæ*, and 5, of Ulster, *Ultoniæ*, and between them, the words, *FUIT, EST, ERIT*.—*Conditio religioque*.—between the first and second, these words, *Quasi platanus exaltata juxta aquam*—between the second and third, *Quasi terebinthus extendens ramos suos*; between the third and fourth *Quasi palma exaltata in Cades*; and between the fourth and fifth, *Quasi cedrus exaltata in Libano, et quasi cypressus in monte Sion*.

On the third sheet, in the top margin, between the third and fourth effigies of Charles II. are engraved four shields, without arms; under the first, this inscription, *No' septentrionalis et australis, Walsiæ, novæ Britanniæ, Angliæ, Scotiæ et York*; under the second, *Marilandix, Caroline, Virginix et Jamaice*; under the third, *Bermude, Barbade, Mont-*

³⁰ One in perfect preservation, in the Geoffry Browne, one of the Commissioners MS. Lib. Trin. Col. Dublin, and the other to the Duke of Lorraine.—De Burgo in the possession of Dominick Geoffry his supplement, says, that he saw another Browne, of Castlemagaret, County Mayo, of these maps, in the College of St. Isidore, descendant of the above named dore, in Rome.

sarret et Sancti Christofori; and under the fourth, *Gkineæ et Tankeriæ*, &c. —Between the first and second, these words, *Quasi plantatio rosæ in Jericho*; between the second and third, *Quasi lilium inter spinas*; and between the third and fourth, *Quasi lilium germinans germinabit, et lætabuntur deserta et inuia*.

In the right and left margins of the map, are contained the armorial bearings, but without names, of twenty-four distinguished families, connected with and allied to those of Galway, with the following inscription at each side; *Scuta sequentia sunt insignia quorundam ex multis Hiberniæ nobilium, principum et clarissimorum virorum, qui, aliquo consanguinitatis vel affinitatis seu quovis alio necessitudinis vinculo, astricti sunt Galviensibus*.

The bottom margin is divided into five compartments, in the first, are contained the armorial bearings of the families of *Bareth, Breminham, Burke, Butler, Crena and Penreice*, with this inscription underneath:

*Aspicc conspicuos, quos Galvia justa, recepit,
Hinc illi nomen civis et omen, habent.*³¹

In the second, the armorial bearings of the families of *Deane, Joyce, Martine and Skereth*, with this inscription over, *Antiqua quorundam Galviæ stirpium insignia*, and the following underneath:

*Hæc sunt quorundam præclara insignia Galvæ,
Antiqua, obsequio facta serene tuo.*³²

In the third, the armorial bearings of the families of *Athey, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, Deane, Dorsie, Fonte, Frinch, Joyce, Kirowan, Linche, Martine, Morech and Skereth*, with the following verses underneath:

*Septem ornant montes Romam, septem ostia Nilum,
Tot rutilis stellis splendet in axe Polus.
Galvia, Polo Niloque bis æquas, Roma Connachtæ;
Bis septem illustres, has colit illa tribus.
Bis urbis septem defendunt mænia turres;
Intus, et ex duro est marmore quæque domus;
Bis septem portæ sunt, castra et culmina circum:
Per totidem pontû permeat unda vias.
Principe bis septem fulgent altaria templo,
Quævis patronæ est ara dicata suo
Et septem, sacrata Deo, cænobia patrum,
Fæminei et sexus, tot pia tecea tenet.*³³

31 Conspicuous here the illustrious arms
behold,
Of those whom Galway 'midst her
tribes enroll'd.

32 The ancient arms of Galway's lords
you view,
With true obeisance, highest prince,
to you.

33 Rome boasts sev'n hills, the Nile its
sev'n-fold stream,
Around the pole sev'n radiant
planets gleam;

Galway, Conation Rome, twice equals
these;
She boasts twice sev'n illustrious
families;
Twice sev'n high tow'rs defend her
lofty walls;
And polished marble decks her
splendid halls;
Twice sev'n her massive gates, o'er
which arise
Twice sev'n strong castles tow'ring to
the skies;

In the fourth, four several armorial bearings of the Lynch family, headed with the inscription, *Diversæ familiæ Lynchæorum, a prima origine propagatæ*, and followed by this distich :

*Hic Lynchæorum bene prima ab origine notas,
Diversas stirpes nobilis ecce domus.*³⁴

And in the fifth, the armorial bearings of the families of *Fallone, Labarth, Nolan, Quinne, Tully and Porte*, with the following inscription underwritten :

*Conscripti cives hi gaudent legibus urbis,
Quos facit et fratres connubialis amor.*³⁵

Having finished the margins, the body of the map next claims attention.—The words, *Carolus Rex*, appear on the top of each of the three upper sheets, under which follows the title of the map, in large capitals, *Urbis Galviæ, totius Conatiæ in regno Hiberniæ, clarissimæ metropolis, et emporii celeberrimi, delineatio historica.*³⁶ On one side are depicted the arms of Ireland, viz. those of the five provinces, Meath being in the centre, blazoned on the shield, supported by two figures, under one of which, is subscribed, *Intellectus*, and under the other, *Veritas*, and the following words underneath, *Scotiæ majoris, vulgo Hiberniæ regnorum, insignia*.

In the centre of the middle sheet, are the arms of England, with this inscription under, *Augustissimo faustissimoque suo principi, Carolo II, Dei gratia, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ regi, serenissimo, &c. ab adictissimo sue majestatis cliente, R.D.H.I. istius urbis cive et pastore. oblata; civitatem et se, suaque omnia, in, vel extra urbem, D.O.M. et SSe S Mti æterno voto consecrat dedicatque.*

On one side are the following verses :

*Terra, fretum, populi, queque aspicias undique late,
Sunt tibi, sint generi, Carole, fida tuo.*³⁷

And on the other,

*Plus ultra tibi, quam tabule, vel continet orbis,
Que spheram superant suspice, nosce.*³⁸

Next to these are the arms of Scotland, supported by two figures, under

Twice sev'n her bridges, thro' whose
arches flow
The silv'ry tides majestically slow;
Her ample Church with twice sev'n
altar flames,
And heavenly patron every altar
claims;
While twice sev'n convents pious
anthems raise,
(Sev'n for each sex,) to sound
Jehovah's praise.

34 From one proud stock, for ages
known to fame,
These different branches of the
Lynches came.

35 Our common rights, these, late
enfranchised, prove,
And claim a kindred through con-
nubial love.

36 An historical delineation of the town
of Galway, the most renowned metropolis,
and celebrated emporium of all Connaught,
in the kingdom of Ireland.

37 Earth, seas and tribes, where'er thine
eyes can move
To thee, great monarch, constant
fealty prove,
And still may these, whate'er thy
eyes can trace
Prove endless fealty to thy future
race.

38 Turn, prince, towards heav'n, there
greater glory gain
Than pictured chart, and all the
world contain.

one of which is inscribed, *Constantia*, and under the other, *Patientia*; with the following words, *Albanicæ regni, vulgo minoris sive junioris Scotiæ, insigniæ*.

Under the arms of England are the modern arms of Galway, an antique gally, with this inscription over it, *Laudatio ejus manet in seculum seculi*; and the following under :

Galvia, quam colimus vestra est, jam respice pictam;

*Nos quoque sacramus nostraque nos tibi.*³⁹

To the right of these, are placed the most ancient arms of the town, with these words over them, *Initium sapientiæ timor Domini*; and underneath these verses :

Prima tuis proavis dedimus primordia nostre

*Urbis et infantes nosque, serene tibi.*⁴⁰

And to the left, are the more recent arms of the town, with these words over, *Intellectus bonus omnibus facientibus eum*; and beneath them these verses,

Flosque juventutis sub te crescentis abunde,

*Est tuus, atque status, tempora, jura, bona.*¹

There are two tables of reference to the map,² THE FIRST, by seventy-seven figures and several letters, to all maters within the town; with this title, *Elenchus, quo notanda quædam annexa et intra urbem, hoc iconismo depicta, cito perspiciuntur*; and underneath this inscription, *Galvia quæ ædificatur, ut civitas cujus participatio ejus in idipsum*.

39 Our city's thine, which pictured here
you see,
Ourselves and ours we consecrate to
thee.

40 To thy forefathers, mighty prince
and you
We've given our city, 'selves and
children too.

1 Our flow'r of youth, encreasing fast
are thine,
And true to thee their rights and
wealth resign.

7. The fortification or bulwark, from the
inner patr of shoemaker's tower,
called The Rampir.

8. The old bulwark near the strand,
called Can an balla.

9. The place above Martin's mill, called
Millen an Martin.

10. } Three towers upon the three gates
11. } of the bridge.
12. }

13. The interior castle for defence of the
bridge.

14. The exterior bulwark defending the
bridge.

2 REFERENCE I.

Besides the natural situation of the place
there are fourteen fortifications, bul-
warks or ramparts, about the
walls, and joined to them.

1. The outworks and north fosse, of the
middle and southern rampart, of
the east bulwark.

2. The north wing or rampart of the
east bulwark.

3. The middle rampart, about the old
fortification of the great gate.

4. The south wing or rampart about shoe-
maker's tower.

5. The outworks about lyon's tower and
the old wall with the fosse.

5. a. The rampart of lyon's tower.

6. The old fortification before the great
gate, called Obir na sparra.

There are also fourteen towers on the
walls.

15. 1. The lyon's tower, called Tor-an-
Leoin.

16. 2. The middle tower.

17. 3. The great tower, in which is placed
the clock.

18. 4. Penrice's tower.

19. 5. Shoemaker's tower.

20. 6. The new tower.

21. 7. Michael's tower.

22. 8. Martin's tower.

23. 9. Alexander's new tower.

24. 10. Athy's tower.

25. 11. The little gate tower.

26. 12. [].

27. 13. Agnes's tower, called Tor Inniska,

28. 14. The little gate river tower.

THE SECOND, a reference to all matters outside the walls, divided into east and west, one by fifty, the other by forty-nine figures, and entitled, *Synopsis qua res circa civitatem in hac deliniatione descriptæ, digitio demonstrantur*, and the entire concludes with these words,

Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus domini,

Testimonium Israle, ad confitendum nomen domini.

From the delineation just concluded, and the description already given, a tolerably accurate idea may be formed of the former opulent state and magnificence of Galway; adorned with superb and highly decorated buildings and surrounded by every requisite for security and defence, which either art could suggest or wealth command, it was universally acknowledged to be the most perfect city in the kingdom: while its rich inhabitants stood conspicuously distinguished for their commercial pursuits, public zeal, and high independance of spirit, all of which will be found exemplified, in the most satisfactory manner, throughout the following pages.

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| <p>The names of the city gates, which fourteen in number.</p> <p>The principal is the great gate, which contains six, of which</p> <p>28. The first, is in the south wing of the east bulwark.</p> <p>29. The second and third, which are the sides of the old fortification, before the great gate; the fourth, is seen on entering, and the iron gate, which is the fifth.</p> <p>30. The sixth, is that which immediately looks into the city.</p> <p>31. Upon the bridge there are three, the first, which is the most distant, called in Sparra hier.</p> <p>32. The second, is the middle gate, with winding leaves.</p> <p>33. The third, which next approaches the city.</p> <p>34. The little gate also has three, of which the first is an iron gate, which looks towards the north.</p> <p>35. The middle gate, which is seen on entrance, and the third, through which is the passage through the city.</p> <p>36. Two gates towards the shore, of which, one is called the ould key gate.</p> <p>37. The other, the new strand gate.</p> <p>There are seven ascents to the wall.</p> <p>38. The first, is near the little gate, which is not seen except from within.</p> <p>39. The second and third stairs, are on each side of the great gate.</p> <p>40. The fourth, is the ascent from Pludd street, called Steire naguinagh.</p> <p>41. The fifth, is the ascent from the area of the new strand gate.</p> <p>*. The sixth, is near the old quay gate</p> <p>42° Likewise several gardens near Athy's Castle.</p> <p>43. The seventh, in Alexander's-lane,</p> | <p>which is not seen except from within.</p> <p>44. There are seven vacant spaces to be noticed, the first, the garden hill, near Lyon's tower.</p> <p>45. Several gardens under the middle tower.</p> <p>46. Several gardens under penrice's tower</p> <p>47. Several gardens about the pidgeon-house.</p> <p>48. The area of the new strand gate.</p> <p>49. Blake's great garden.</p> <p>50. The names of the fourteen principal streets, of which the first is the great gate street.</p> <p>51. The high middle street.</p> <p>52. The Market street, including Gaol street.</p> <p>53. The Kea street.</p> <p>54. Crosse street.</p> <p>55. Bridge gate street.</p> <p>56. Lombard street.</p> <p>57. North street.</p> <p>58. Little gate street.</p> <p>59. Skinner's or Glover's street.</p> <p>60. A street between two lanes, called Sraid eddir da Bogher.</p> <p>61. New tower street.</p> <p>62. Pludd street.</p> <p>63. Earl street, or Sraid Tober an Jarlagh.</p> <p>64. The fourteen principal lanes, are, first, Blake's lane.</p> <p>65. Dark lane, called Boaher Dubh.</p> <p>66. Bodkin's lane.</p> <p>67. The poor, Clares lane.</p> <p>68. Upper Shoemaker's lane.</p> <p>69. Lower Shoemaker's lane.</p> <p>70. Fisher's lane.</p> <p>71. The lane between the two strand gates, called Boaher eddir da Stronda.</p> <p>72. Matrin's mill lane.</p> <p>73. Kirwan's lane.</p> |
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But these facts, however well authenticated, must appear extraordinary to those now acquainted with the town, and when contrasted with its present very different state and appearance, it would not be at all surprising if they should be pronounced as altogether incredible. The lofty walls, castles, edifices and towers, once its pride and ornament, are long since crumbled into dust, the much boasted spirit of enterprize and independance of its former inhabitants, lie dead or dormant in their descendants, and nothing now remains to mark their former grandeur, but the spacious ruins

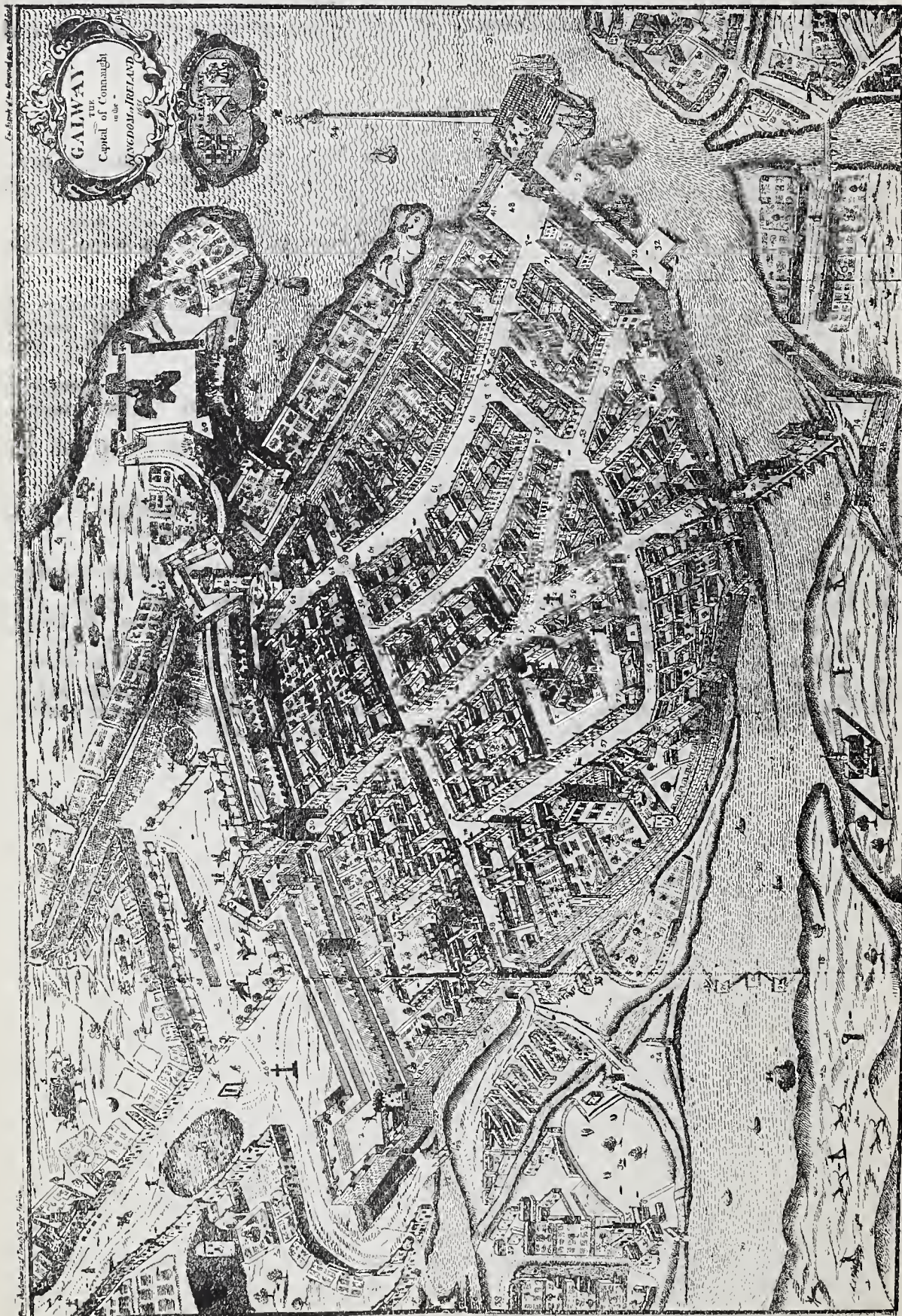
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74. St. John's lane, called in Gutta.
 75. The red Earl's lane, called Boaher an Iarlagh.
 76. Alexander's lane, commonly called Boaher Isander.
 77. Crooked lane, called Boaher Keam.
- A. Besides the collegiate church of St. Nicholas, there are fourteen communities or residences of sacred persons.
 B. The college of the Priests and Pastors.
 C. The community or residence of the Friars Minor.
 D. ——— Friars Preachers.
 E. ——— Augustine Preachers.
 F. ——— Society of Jesus.
 G. ——— Brothers Carmelites.
 H. ——— Capuchins.
 I. ——— Sisters of the rich Clares.
 K. ——— poor Clares.
 L. ——— third order of Saint Francis.
 M. ——— order of Saint Dominick.
 N. ——— order of Saint Augustine.
 O. ——— Carmelites.
 P. Various retreats of devout females.
- Fourteen remarkable edifices, castles or mansion houses, of the nobility, gentry and citizens of Galway.
 Q. The old castle of the most illustrious Lord, Richard De Burgo, the red Earl.
 R. Athy's castle, in the north part of the city.
 S. Lynch's castle, in the middle of the city.
 T. Blake's castle, on the south near the strand.
 V. The mansion house, of Sir Robert Lynch baronet.
 W. ——— of Sir Valentine Blake, baronet.
 X. ——— of Sir Peter Frinch, knight.
 Y. ——— of Sir Richard Blake, knight.
 Z. ——— of Sir Dominick Blake, knight.
 &c. ——— of Sir Oliver Frinch, knight.
 a. ——— of Martin Dorsi, citizen.
 b. ——— of Sir Walter Blake, knight.
 c. ——— of Antony Ro. Lynch, citizen.
 d. ——— of Martin Browne, citizen.
- Seven places and stations of monuments, or altars, solemnly built by the clergy, in the streets, for the solemnity and procession of corpus christi.
 e. By the Franciscans.
 f. By the Capuchins.
 g. By the Augustinians.
 h. By the Dominicans.
 i. By the Carmelites.
 k. By the Jesuits.
 l. By the Priests of the College of St. Nicholas.
- Seven public places, or principal markets, of the city.
 m. The market for fresh water fish, before Blake's lane, called The little gate corners.
 n. The Shambles
 o. The Cow market or Plud street.
 p. The Horse market, near the new strand gate.
 q. The market, or fish shambles, before and in the Fisher's lane
 r. The little market for various wares, through the street of this market.
 s. The market, where all other wares are promiscuously sold.
- There are seven other places and things to be noticed.
 t. The old town house, upon the goal and shambles.
 u. New edifice commenced for a town house.
 w. The Exchange.
 x. The cemetery of the church, with the great tree.
 y. St. Nicholas's hospital or poor house.
 z. The market and college cross.
 &. An old pidgeon house, in the south part of the city.
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- REFERENCE II.
 On the West.
- I. An explanation of the description of Galway.
 2. The arms of the fourteen tribes of Galway.
 3. The arms of ten other branches, connected with the families of Galway.
 4. The monastery of Saint Dominick.
 5. The cemetery of the monastery.
 6. Several gardens, 6.a Parks, 6.b Orchards.

and remnants of a few splendid mansions, which serve but to keep alive the melancholy remembrance of what their founders once had been. The causes of these revolutions and decay will be more properly explained in another place, the reader will therefore, for the present, have to return to

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| 7. The place where ships are repaired. | 40. Cromwell's ships, following the king's subjects to the port of Ardfry. |
| 8. St. Mary's hill, called Cnucka in Tampeill Mirea. | 41. The promontory of Ruinmore. |
| 9. The south suburbs, 9.d The road to cave hill. | 42. Matton island. |
| 10. St. Mary's rivulet, called Sruhan Mirea. | 43. Hill, called Cnuc a T'dollain. |
| 11. Ball's bridge, called Drehad Miall. | 44. Part of the crane's strand, called Trai na cgoer |
| 11.c Ball's bridge river. | 45. Part of the road leading to Blake's hill. |
| 12. Castle jordan, called Meil Costain. | 46. The west suburbs, called Fahei-beg. |
| 13. The middle suburbs. Balle Meanagh. | 47. Part of the road which leads to St. James's chapel at newcastle, and the strong castle, called in Dangein. |
| 14. Giant's hill, called Cnuckian na Kgehim. | 48. The foundation of the west fortifications, where formerly commenced. |
| 15. The whirlpool river, with the whirlpool, called Poultuofil. | 49. Part of the road which leads to the castle of Rahune. |
| 16. Island altagneach, now the island of Saint Clara. | On the East. |
| 17. The house of the nuns of St. Clara. | 1. The title of the city of Galway. |
| 18. The other island altagneach, formerly called goat island. | 2. The monastery of St. Augustin, surrounded by the fort. |
| 19. A causeway or passage between the two islands, with the fishing place. | 3. Saint Augustin's well, on the south side of the hill. |
| 20. The river of Galway, formerly the river Ausoba, now called Pollin Mor. | 4. Saint Augustin's hill. |
| 21. The great cataracts, called Inchora Mor where salmon are taken up. | 4.c The king's fort, surrounding the monastery. |
| 22. The little cataracts, called Cora na b'maraher, where Eels are taken. | 5. Saint Bridget's well, on the right and left of the high way. |
| 23. Stag island, alias Illain an fhia. | 6. Saint Bridget's chapel. |
| 23.b Thady's island, called Inis Teig. | 7. The house of lepers, under the title of St. Bridget. |
| 24. The rock, where the woman Galva is said to have been drowned, from which the city of Galway was named. | 8. The house of the Capuchins. |
| 25. A bathing place, where boys swim, called Sruagh millin Shemis khgh. | 9. The arms of Great Britain. |
| 26. The big bridge, being the only passage from the west to the city: here also salmon are killed with a spear. | 10. The arms of the kingdom of Ireland. |
| 27. The fortification for the defence of the shipping in the port. | 11. The arms of the kingdom of Scotland. |
| 28. The rivulet encompassing the bulwark of the bridge. | 12. The most ancient arms of Galway. |
| 29. Place where salmon are fished for with nets. | The old arms of ditto. |
| 30. The river falls into the sea. | The modern arms of ditto. |
| 31. The sea flows into the torrent of the river. | 13. Genealogical tree of the king of England, from an Irish and Scottish root. |
| 32. The strand where ships are unloaded, called the Kea. | 14. Genealogical branch of the Galway families, from same. |
| 33. The new walk near the strand, called the Exchange. | 15. The highway leading to the hills, called Leaghtifarda. |
| 34. The pile where the new buildings were commenced. | 16. The pathway leading to the high hill of the blighted bush, called Cnuckweildris. |
| 35. The Crow's Rock, called Carrig an Pfreaghan. | 17. The king's high road, called Bohermore. |
| 36. The promontory of Ruintenain. | 18. The lake called Lin-more. |
| 37. The bay of Galway. | 19. The cross in the middle of the highway, called Lagh more ni hein. |
| 38. The road. | 20. The little lane which leads to Lynch's rock, called Clogh-an-Lince. |
| 39. The bay which leads to the port of Ardfry. | 21. The lines and position of Cromwell's forces, at the siege of the town, when it was taken. |
| | 22. The boys of Suckin. |
| | 22.b Part of castle gare. |
| | 23 Suckin river, (c) part of the mill, and (d) part of Balendula. |

an earlier era, in order to trace the gradual progress of the town, from its commencement, to the period and state in which it has been already displayed; and to follow it from thence, through all its various vicissitudes and changes, to the present day.

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| 24. The plague house, with the garden annexed. | 39. The north suburbs, and 35, the east |
| 25. Horse Island, called Illain na Cgapiall. | 40. The gallows, where criminals are executed. |
| 26. The stream and new fosse, called Diegnua. | 46.e The new market, with the cross. |
| 27. The little bridge river. | 41. The second lake, on the way, before the gallows. |
| 28. The draw bridge. | 42. The old pidgeon-house. |
| 29. The old stream, by which the water formerly ran to the monastery or abbey bridge, called in Turre, or Leaim Teige. | 43. Green plots, where the gentlemen of the city usually play and amuse themselves, commonly called The Green |
| 30. The abbey bridge. | 44. The scite, where it is said formerly stood the hospital of the knights templars. |
| 31. Several mills, viz. St. Francis' mill. 34.a St. Michael's mill. 35.b The bridge mill. 35.c The lattle gate mill. | 45. The garden angle, called Cluid na Garriha. |
| 32. The Friar's stream, by which wood, &c. was formerly brought to the abbey, called Srucainna b'mraher. | 45.b Playing at bowls. |
| 33. The abbey of St. Francis, or of the Friars' minors. | 46. The promontory of Morloint. 46.a Ruinmaor. 46.b Ruismor. |
| 34. The abbey church yard. | 47. The Pool. |
| 35. The gate of the inner inclosure of the abbey, and the dormitory. | 48. The salt lake, called Lough-na-Stale. |
| 36. The refectory, called Halla na b'mraher. | 49. Part of the stream by which the citizens formerly intended to bring round the north river, and join it to the south, called Lough an Stale. |
| 37. Several gardens laid out by the Friars. | 50. Arms of some of the many noble families of Ireland, connected with those of Galway. |
| 38. The wood strand or quay, and a cross or water mark, in the river. | |



CHAP II.

FROM THE EARLIEST ACCOUNTS TO THE INVASION OF
HENRY II.

Early History and Antiquities of Ireland disputed—Intemperate feelings of writers on the subject—Come but little within the scope of this work—The ancient town of Galway made a chief point of division in the various partitions of Ireland—In that by Heber and Heremon—By Eogan More and Con-Céad-Chathach in the second century—War between these princes, for an equal dividend of the revenues of Dublin and Galway—The latter then a place of note—Destruction of Irish records—Accounts of Ireland by Tacitus and Ptolemy—Those of the latter doubted—Opinions of Camden, Ware, Baxter and others—That Galway was the Nagnata of Ptolemy—Its origin uncertain—Destruction of the Town by the Danes—Rebuilt by the Conacians—Ravaged by the Momonians—Burned, and again revived in 1170.

THE early history and antiquities of Ireland have been subjects of doubt and controversy, for a longer time, and perhaps in a greater degree, than generally occurs of any other country; and, though it stands admitted, that, like those of most other nations, the origin and primitive state of this Island are considerably involved in darkness and fable, yet, it seems also agreed, that few countries have a higher claim to antiquity,³ or have advanced better proofs in support of that distinction, than this, the most westerly and secluded kingdom of Europe. However, on this latter point, as on many others connected with the subject, much has been said and written on both sides; writers stand in hostile array against each other, and throughout a discussion, wherein the spirit of calm investigation after truth should alone predominate, those angry disputants have generally indulged in the most acrimonious feelings, and not infrequently in the most puerile reflections. Those who decried, as well as they who supported, the claim to antiquity, were, though from different causes, in this respect equally reprehensible. The former, in general unacquainted with the language, and consequently with the written memorials of the country, could not patiently brook the imputations of ignorance and misconception, which were most liberally bestowed on them by their antagonists; and therefore, after frequently supplying the place of knowledge by supposition, and of argument by angry declamation, they seldom failed to complete their

³ Spencer, who was never charged with partiality to the Irish, declared near 250 years ago, that they were the most ancient people he knew of in this end of the world; and, to the same fact, number-
less other foreign testimonies could be adduced, without at all resorting to our native historians, or to the ancient records of the kingdom.

labours by recriminating charges of national prejudice, and gross misrepresentation, against their more confident opposers.

Such being the state of this literary warfare, it is evident that much must have been left undetermined, and that a good deal still remains to be atchieved, and many cool dispassionate efforts made, before criticism can have that "secure anchorage" so much to be wished for; and until this desirable event shall take place, those points which have been so long supported on one side, and so strenuously contested on the other, can never be brought to a positive or satisfactory conclusion. The nature of these pages precludes the possibility of more than glancing at the question, and that merely in a local point of view, and even then, only so far as it bears upon the early existence and former celebrity of the place which is the subject of this work. Feeling that the principal duty of a topographer is to state facts, the little that could be gleaned relating to a period so distant, dark, and doubtful, shall be faithfully exhibited, and whatever may be the application made, or conclusion drawn from those statements, it is by no means intended to supersede, or interfere with, the judgment or opinion of the reader.

That the western coast of Ireland was peopled as early as any other part of the Island, appears from all the annuals which purport to record the events of those distant times; and, that the particular district, now comprehending the town of Galway and its vicinity, was one of the first positions which was chosen for the purpose of habitation, by the original settlers, is incontestibly proved from the same sources of information. By them it also appears that Galway, or the place on or near which it is situate, was frequently made a chief point of division in the most ancient and celebrated partitions of Ireland; and for this supposed reason, that, as it lay almost due west of Dublin, a line drawn from one place to the other, would nearly divide the kingdom into two equal parts. The first division of Ireland is attributed to Partholanus, a Scythian, who is stated to have effected a settlement here, some centuries after the flood, and to have divided the kingdom into four equal parts, which he distributed amongst his four sons. Of these, Fearon, the third son, received the territory extending from a place in Munster, afterwards called the Island of Barymore, to Athcliath na mearuidhe, now Clarins-bridge, near Galway; and the district from thence to Oileachneid in the north, was assigned to the fourth son Feargna. The second, or Firbolgian partition of Ireland, is stated to have taken place A.M. 2500, when it was divided into five provinces, of which Connaught, (so called, according to Keating, from Con and Oict, the posterity of Con, a druid of the Tuatha de danans, who afterwards inhabited that part of the country,) fell to the share of Geanann, one of their five principal commanders; and extended from Lumneach, afterwards Limerick, including the place where Galway is situate, to Drobhaois, the present bay of Donegal.

But passing over the disputed portions of our history, the more authentic accounts relate, that Heber and Heremon, the sons of Milesius,

divided the kingdom into two parts; one of which was called *Leath thuadh*, or the northern, and the other, *Leath dheas*, or the southern half. This division was effected by a line or boundary, drawn from Galway to Dublin, through *Eisgirriada*, or the long mountains, which were fixed upon as the limits of both kingdoms. It is further related, that, in the reign of *Eochaidh Feidhlioch*, monarch of Ireland, Connaught, then the largest province in the kingdom, underwent a division into three equal parts, which that prince bestowed upon three favourite petty dynasts, *Fiochach*, *Eochaidh-Allat* and *Tinne*; the second of whom received the territory from Galway to *Drobhaois*, and the third of the district from Galway to *Lumneach*: that he then erected the ancient palace of *Cruachan*, or *Rathcruachan*, (situate near the present village of *Ballintubber*, between the town of *Boyle* and *Elphin*, in the county of *Roscommon*;) which from that time became the capital of Connaught, and, until long after the arrival of the English, for the space of near 1300 years, was the residence of its kings.⁴ Some ruins of this once venerated place still remain, a rath, and a famous burying-place of the kings of Connaught, called by the natives *Reilig-na-Riogh*.

The last, and most famous partition of Ireland, was that which took place about the year 166, between *Con*, called in Irish *Con céad Chathach*, or of the hundred battles, then monarch of the entire Island, and *Eogan* king of Munster. This division was nearly the same as that originally made by the sons of *Milesius*, but now more precisely determined by a line or boundary drawn across the kingdom, from Dublin to Galway, through *Cluan-ard*, *Cuan-mac-Nois* and *Eisgir-riada*. All to the north of this boundary was called *Leath-cuin*, or *Con's half*, and all to the south *Leath-mogha*, or *Eogan's half*; which names they not only long afterwards retained, but in many places are known by to this day. The partition being thus completed, the two princes quietly enjoyed their respective territories until the year 181, when *Eogan*, visiting Dublin, found a greater number of ships on the north side of the river than on the south, which consequently caused *Con's* mercantile revenues here considerably to exceed his own. Upon this discovery, *Eogan* complained of an infringement of their treaty, and, probably wishing to have a pretext for war, he contended that an equal distribution of the revenues in the ports of Dublin and Galway⁵ was implied

⁴ It is erroneously asserted that the government, thus formed, was called *Connacthne*, an error which arose from the circumstance of that being anciently the name of several districts in Connaught. Thus *Connacne* of *Dunmore*, in the present county of Galway, was the ancient estate of *O'Siodhlan*. *Connacne Cuiletola*, now the barony of *Kilmain*, in the county of *Mayo*, was the lordship of *O'Talcarain*; and *Connacnemara*, in the County of Galway, was the country of *O'Cadhlá*, i.e. *O'Keily*. It is now the barony of *Ballinahinch*, or the district of the Islands.—*O'Brien*.

fancy is not entirely confined to the regions of poetry.—*Connacnemara*, or the Chief Tribe on the great Sea, comprehended the western coasts of the present county of Galway. It was also called *Connacne-ira*, or the Chief Tribe of the West, and *Jar-Connaught*, that is, West Connaught; likewise *Hy Iartagh*, or the Western Country, the chiefs of which are denominated *Hy Flaherty* or *O'Flaherty*, that is, the Chief of the Nobles of the Western Country, and contained the present baronies of *Moycullen* and *Ballinahinch*.—*Beauford*.

⁵ Vide *O'Halloran's History of Ireland*, Vol II. p. 238. Ed. Dub. 1803.

in the division of the kingdom; and he not only insisted upon receiving it in future, but that Con should refund the surplus which he had received from the time of the treaty: this requisition was indignantly rejected, and a war ensued, which, after many vicissitudes, ended in the destruction of Eogan.

Should these relations of our domestic writers, and particularly that which alludes to the trade of Dublin and Galway, excite any doubt in the mind of the reader, it should be remembered that Tacitus, one of the most respectable authorities of all antiquity, in his *Life of Agricola*, relates, in corroboration of these accounts, that Ireland, at the very time, held constant communication and traffic with the most formidable parts of the Roman empire, and consequently with Spain, to which Galway lies particularly convenient. Considering, therefore, that these facts are nowhere respectably controverted, but stand on as firm a foundation of historical authority as, under all the circumstances, can reasonably be expected at the present day, it is manifest that Galway must have been, in those early times, a place of considerable note; and, if the reader reverts to what has been said in the preceding chapter, concerning the probable derivation of the name of the town, from the circumstance of its commerce, he will find, that the authenticity of these historical accounts not only receives great additional support, but that the conclusion which is here drawn from them may, with every degree of certainty, be pronounced accurate.

It must, however, be particularly lamented, that much of the primitive state of this Island, and many of the transactions which occurred in it, previously to the introduction of christianity, are wrapped up in a veil of almost impenetrable obscurity, and that the most laborious researches frequently terminate in little more than ingenious conjectures. The causes to which these defects may be attributed are various, but the principal seems to be, the destruction of our ancient records; in the first place, by the pious zeal of Saint Patrick, and the other christian missionaries, in their anxiety to destroy every vestige of heathen superstition, and, in the next, by the barbarous policy of the Danes, and their immediate invading successors the Anglo-Normans, by whom those venerable lights of antiquity were for ever extinguished. Another, and no inconsiderable, cause of the defects complained of, is, that the most valuable of the remnants which escaped these devastations, and afterwards survived the wreck of time, are locked up from the inspection of the curious, in a language which few of the present day understand; a circumstance which has caused more misrepresentation and confusion on the subject of Irish antiquities, than any other whatsoever. These sources of information have, however, been carefully explored for the present work; but so little of a local nature could be obtained that it now becomes necessary to have recourse to foreign accounts, however imperfect, to elucidate this early page of our history.

Ptolemy, the Greek geographer, who flourished in the second century, has handed down, through the medium of his own language, the names of several rivers, cities and tribes, then situate on the western coast of

Ireland. The accounts which he has given, though considered correct, and highly curious and valuable, are still liable to many objections; and may, even without going so far as to coincide with the author of the *Oxgygia*, in his remarks on their authenticity, be pronounced in many particulars erroneous, and such as cannot be entirely depended upon, without cautious and careful examination. To the veracity of the geographer nothing is imputable; he related what he heard from those who had visited the country; for it appears that this Island, though unfortunately never under the dominion of the Romans, yet carried on an extensive trade with the empire. Tacitus, in the tract before referred to, asserts that its ports and harbours were better known than those of Britain, from a greater commerce and resort of merchants; and from those visitors it was, that Ptolemy drew the accounts which he gave of the coasts of Ireland; for he does not seem to have mentioned, or even known anything of the interior of the country, except a few places which lay immediately contiguous to the coasts.

But our native historians having passed over, in silence, the several places mentioned by Ptolemy, the truth of his relation came at length to be doubted, and the existence of the cities and people, described by him, was called in question: this caused many writers, amongst whom Camden, Ware, Baxter and Harris are the chief, to exert much ingenuity to reconcile his accounts respecting the country in general, and to settle the situation of the several places which he has mentioned; yet, after all their learned conjectures, the situations of many of these places still remain undetermined. The geographer having described the northern coast of Ireland, proceeds to the western, where he mentions a people called the *Auterii*, and a city as then existing, to which he gives the term "illustrious," and calls by the name of *Nagnata*, an illustrious city. That this was the ancient town of Galway, according to the judgment and decision of some of the learned writers just mentioned, there can be no doubt, although others, at the same time, hold a contrary opinion, and think that the *Auterii* were the people then inhabiting the district of Galway, which, according to them, was their principal city. In order, however, to afford the reader an opportunity of forming his own judgment between these conflicting opinions, it may not be unimportant or uninteresting to lay before him what has been said, by those different writers, on the subject.

Ware, whose opinion on Irish antiquities (though he was unacquainted with the Irish language,) claims every deference, says, that the *Auterii* resided in the countries comprehending the present counties of Galway and Roscommon. Mr. Beauford, a writer much more fanciful than correct, supposes them the inhabitants of the coasts of Galway and Mayo; and, as the name, according to him, signifies an habitation of the western water, he thinks there is the greatest probability that their city was situate some where on the bay of Galway, to which the natives, during their commerce with the Gallic, Iberian and Roman merchants, resorted for the benefit of traffic; if it were not, adds he, the ancient town of Galway itself. He again changed his mind, by placing these people in that extensive district, now

comprehending the county of Mayo, and says, they were evidently the ancient inhabitants of the Irish Ibh-Errus, the present barony of Errus in that country. By this he seems to have abandoned his former conjectures, leaving the opinion of Ware uncontroverted; who, with a great deal of probability, thinks that the town of Athenry, commonly called in Irish *Ath-an-righ*, or *Aitanri*, was the city or capital of the Auterii: and, independently of any coincidence of name, which, however, is very remarkable, the situation and antiquity of Athenry very much favour the opinion. From hence, therefore, it may be safely concluded, that the city of the Auterii, mentioned by Ptolemy, was not the ancient town of Galway.

It now remains to ascertain the situation of Nagnata, then the principal city on the western coast of Ireland; and, although satisfactory proofs and convincing arguments shall be produced, which will fully demonstrate it to have been the original town of Galway, still, from the order and distances, as laid down by Ptolemy, it might, with every appearance of probability, be concluded, that Nagnata was situated more to the north, and somewhere in the direction of the present town or county of Sligo. But, as the writings of this author abound with errors and mistakes, many arising from incorrectness of information, and, perhaps, many more from carelessness of transcribers, no dependance ought to be, or indeed is, placed on them by the learned; and particularly as to the situations of many of the places which he has mentioned. A writer, referred to in the last paragraph, who endeavoured a good deal, but often upon erroneous principles, to reconcile those differences,⁶ places Nagnata in the present barony of Carbery and county of Sligo; and, to support this allocation, he alleges that the name is derived from Nagaetaegh, or the habitation on the sea; but he seems to have forgotten that this would equally well apply to any other situation on the coast, as to that which was selected by him for the purpose of establishing his hypothesis. He then adds, that it was called by the old Irish, *Slioght gae*, or the race on the sea, but for this he does not give, nor, in truth, could he give, any authority; and he finally supposes, that it might be *Cnoc na teagh*, or *Druimcliffe*, in the county of Sligo, which, though at present only a desolated village, is said, in former ages, to have been a large town. Ware, however, declares, that he was not able to discover the smallest trace of a city, so called, in all that tract of country; and though he thinks, with every appearance of truth, that Ptolemy might have misplaced this city a little, he does not mention where he supposed it might have been situated. Baxter, whose authority is most respectable, judges Galway to have been the place,⁷ and says that the name means, in Irish, *Cuan na*

⁶ Transactions Royal Irish Academy, puto quod fieret vox Latina. Nagnatarum sedem Connactiam fuisse mecum sentet Vol. III.

⁷ Nagnatæ, apud Ptolemæum populus est Ibernæ; omnes tamen Libri levi lamorant vitio; Quippe pro eo quod deberet esse ex Analogia linguæ Erion sive Eriis indigenis vocantur Arran Nævæ hodie legimus Navæ, et in non-nullis exemplaribus adhuc pejus Mævæ; Portus sicuti et hodiernis Gallis Camendus. Quod quidem nomen correpse effertur pro cuan na guactie, quod portus est exiguarum insularum, quæ hodie ab pro Iuerion. Est autem Cuan Ibernis

guactie, or the port of the small Islands, alluding to the Isles of Arran, lying at the entrance of the bay, and the other small Islands lying nearer the town. He derives the name from *Cuan*,⁸ a port or harbour, *na*, a preposition of the genitive case, and *uact* or *guact*, a little Island, which, by transition into the Greek manner of pronunciation, would form *Naguata*, for *Nagnata* he takes to be an error of transcribers. Harris, the editor of Ware, agrees with Baxter, saying, that the situation of Galway, according to Ptolemy, is pretty near the truth of this notion. If, in corroboration of the foregoing reasonings, recurrence shall be had to the testimonies of Tacitus, and also of our native historians, already mentioned, relative to the commerce of Galway, at the very time that Ptolemy describes *Nagnata* as the most considerable place on the western coast of Ireland, very little doubt can remain as to their identity. If it should still be necessary to call in the aid of probability or conjecture on the point, the reader might be reminded how indispensable the advantages of natural situation are always held, towards rendering any place eminent or considerable; and, seeing that the bay of Galway possesses, in a high degree, all these advantages, it might be no small reason to conclude, that *Nagnata*, then the most celebrated place in this part of the kingdom, must have been situated some where on the bay: and, if he should go farther, and inquire for the particular spot, he might be assisted by considering the general practice of mankind, at all times, in building their habitations or cities at or near the banks of rivers; and then, combining the numerous advantages, which, in the particular instance of the position of Galway, attend the confluence of a considerable lake and the ocean, he will find that its situation was the best adapted, and most probable place of any other in that quarter, for that of the city in question. Considering therefore, all the foregoing testimonies and reasonings, and the conclusions drawn from them, our entire concurrence is given to the opinions of the learned and respectable writers above quoted, that the ancient town of Galway, though without any apparent nominal analogy, was the famous city mentioned under the name of *Nagnata* by Ptolemy.

Having thus far endeavoured to ascertain the existence of this ancient place, the next object should be, if possible, to discover its origin and illustrate its history; but these are totally involved in darkness; and the only room that remains even for conjecture, is that of its having been so often

Coin pro Angulo est, nostris Brit-
tanis Conge: uict etiam (sive altera
quadam loquela uact vel Guoct.)
Parvam fuisse insulam alias docuimus.
Est igitur Na syllaba in voce *Naguatae*
pro Nota Genitivi veteri Brigantum
sermone.

Naguata, Ptolomæo, dicitur, quod hercle
vel hodie est, Galliva nostra, ita nominata
scoto-brigantibus de cultoribus Anglis;
siquidem vetusta lingua. Gal pro quovis
Peregrino est; unde et se ipsos Gallos
vocatant Brigantes Ibernæ. Etymon
hujus loci in superiore voce quærendum

est.—Baxt. Gloss. Brit.

⁸ At page 3, (note) it is mentioned that
the town of Lismacuan, in Clonferg, was
presented to the abbey of Collic Victoria,
or Knockmoy, near Tuam, founded by
Cathal O'Connor, king of Connaught,
about the year 1190. It would seem as
if by the Irish Lismacuan, or the fort on
the harbour, was meant Galway, the par-
sonage of which, for a long period before
the establishment of the wardenship by
the Pope, belonged to that monastery: if
so, the circumstances would tend much to
strengthen Baxter's ingenious conjecture.

made a point of division, in the various partitions of Ireland, as mentioned in the beginning of this chapter, whence it may reasonably be concluded to have been of very remote antiquity.

It would be foreign from the intention with which this work was originally undertaken, here to consume too much time in describing the tribes and people, who, according to Ptolemy or the native writers of Ireland, formerly inhabited the countries about Galway. As to the town itself, to which our attention is principally directed, no mention appears made of it for centuries after the period in which it is found to have been so considerable; but there are extant several accounts of sanguinary contests, between the rival princes of Munster and Connaught,⁹ immediately in its neighbourhood; and also of changes of inhabitants, and new settlements in its vicinity: but a dead silence reigns as to the place itself, which can only be accounted for, from the destruction of the ancient records and annals of the kingdom already alluded to; and this want or omission is not at all singular in the history of our island, for it is now most clearly ascertained, that many considerable places formerly had existence, of which very little more than their names have been transmitted to posterity. To notice a single instance, out of many; who can peruse the few and trifling accounts now remaining of the early history of Dublin, the ancient metropolis of the kingdom, without a conviction of the loss of the annals and chronicles, which recorded the events of those distant times?

At the commencement of the ninth century, the Danes began to pour in swarms from their northern hive upon Ireland; terror and devastation marked their progress in every quarter; neither the venerable remains of antiquity, the feelings of humanity, nor the divine spirit of the christian religion, could make an impression on those ferocious monsters, who, with

⁹ The animosities which existed between Con and Eogan were kept alive by their descendants. A bloody battle was fought, at Magh Mochruime, near Galway, between Mac Conn, son of Mac Neid, who succeeded to Leath Mogha, after the death of Eogan, assisted by Luigi Laga, second son of Eogan, and Art, (son of Con cead Chathach,) then king of Tara, assisted by the sons of Olioll Olum, eldest son of Eogan, of whom seven were killed in that battle.—Ogyg.

In the year 360, Luig meann, otherwise Lamh dearg, or the bloody handed, king of Leath mogha, after being harassed by the Conacians, who made frequent attempts to add the district, forming the present county of Clare, to their territory, defeated them in several sanguinary engagements, killed several of their chiefs, and, laying waste their territories with fire and sword, deprived them of Clare and Thomond, extending from the bay of Kilcolgan, near Galway, to Limerick, and from Loch-Dearg to Leim Cuchullin, or Cuchullin's Leap, now called Loophead, otherwise Cape leane, at the mouth of the

Shannon. To this extensive tract of country it seems he had a prior right, as it lay within the limits traced out from Galway to Dublin between Con and Eogan. He converted the whole into Fearon cliombh, or Sword land, for the maintenance of his knights, in order to secure his country against the Conacians. In an endeavour to recover this back, in the year 550, Guarra, king of Connaught, was defeated with dreadful slaughter.

About this period some of the descendants of Luig Dealbhaoth, son of Cos, king of North Munster, settled in the territory of Delvin Feadha, in Tirdaloe, to the west of Galway. It was anciently divided into two districts called Gnomore and Gnobeg, which now compose the whole barony of Moycullin. The O'Connors were anciently chiefs of Gnobeg, until they were partly dispossessed, and partly made tributaries by the O'Flahertys.—Collect.

About the year 432 St. Patrick founded a church on the banks of Loch Sealga, near Galway, which was afterwards distinguished by the name of Domhnachmore, or the great church.—Ogyg.

fire and sword, burned and massacred all before them, without distinction. In the year 835, an army of these adventurers, under the command of their sanguinary leader Turgesius, over-run and ravaged the province of Connaught,¹⁰ committing, in their progress, the most dreadful carnage, and, in the general wreck and destruction which then took place, the ancient town of Galway was destroyed. That this insatiable enemy did not spare a place so well adapted for commerce, or afterwards settle there, according to the policy adopted at Waterford, Limerick, and other parts of the kingdom, appears extraordinary, unless that they might, perhaps, have considered its situation as too remote, for purposes of internal traffic or conquest.

Soon after the power of the Danes was completely ruined at the famous battle of Clontarf, the Irish applied themselves, with assiduity, to remedy the disorders occasioned by those invaders; and the people of Connaught, well knowing the great advantages to be derived from the place where the ancient town of Galway was situate, accordingly commenced improving, or rather reviving, the town, which was then reduced to the state of a miserable village, consisting of a few straggling huts, inhabited by fishermen and their families, some of whose names are given in a former page. In the year 1124, a strong castle was built, and the town was put into a state of defence and security.¹¹ The erection of this castle, and the consequent increase and improvement of the town, were viewed with jealousy and suspicion by the people of Munster; between whom, and those of Connaught, there long subsisted a considerable degree of provincial competition and animosity: and, with destructive policy, it was determined to destroy the place, before it should become more formidable. In pursuance of this determination, Connor, the reigning king of Munster, in the year 1132, dispatched a body of troops, by sea, under the command of Cormac McCarthy; who, landing, besieged and took the castle of Galway, then known by the name of *Dune-bun na Gaillve*, or *the fortification at the mouth of Galway*; and, having put the entire garrison to the sword, levelled and destroyed the castle and town, and soon after defeated and slew Connor O'Flaherty, Lord of Iar Connaught.¹² In the following year the king of

¹⁰ Keating and Ware.

¹¹ Annals of Innisfallen and Lynch's MSS.—In the same year were built, the castles of Dunlo, near Ballinasloe, and Cuil-maol, alias Cuildony, in the county of Sligo; and Turlogh O'Connor, monarch of Ireland, (who succeeded in 1130,) soon after built three bridges in Connaught, viz. Athlone, Atherochta over the Shannon, and Dunlo, upon the river Suck. —O'nn. Inisf.

¹² The heads of this ancient and noble Irish family were, from the earliest period, Toparchs of Iar, or western Connaught, and they long struggled, with various success, against the power of the English. There appears frequent entries on the records during the reigns of Hen. III. and Edw. I. II. III. of Donachad

O'Flaherty, Rothery O'Flathery, &c. having, with many other chieftains, been compelled to sue for and pay heavy fines for having the king's peace. These submissions were, however, but merely nominal and temporary, and the sept maintained its independence to a very late period. They were always at variance with the Galway Colonists, whom they kept in a state of continual warfare, considering them as alien encroachers on their territory. Vide note, page 20.

In the reign of Elizabeth, government, by fomenting divisions amongst this powerful sept, brought them to obedience. On 20th October, 1569, Morough ne dubh Mc. Teige O'Flaherty was appointed captain of the country of Ehirconaght (by reason, as the queen's patent states, that

Munster himself marched at the head of an army into Connaught, laid waste the places called *Ruadhbheitheach* and *Bealatha*; slew Cathal O'Connor, the Righdamhna, or heir apparent to the throne of Connaught, and Giolla na naomh O'Floinn, a chieftain of great power: after which, he burned the fortresses of *Dunmogh-dhairne* and *Dunmore*, and all the other places of strength in the country. Turlough O'Brien, king of Munster, again, in the year 1149, invaded Connaught, and took and destroyed the town and castle of Galway. These ravages appear to have been soon afterwards repaired, for in 1154, the ships of "Galway Dune" and of Conmacnamara, were sent upon an expedition to the northern parts of the

Donald Ni-Crone O'Flahertie, the present captain, was not sufficient or fit to exercise that office, in any rule, nor able to govern that country, and moreover was disobedient to the queen,) to hold during his good behaviour, as the queen's faithful subject; and to defend and govern the said country, and the good subjects thereof; to repair to the chief governors, and the council, whenever summoned so to do; to pay to the lord deputy, for his appointment and his admission to the said office, forty fat cows, and deliver them at Galway, as the lord deputy should direct; reserving to the crown all such rents, rights, services, burdens and demands, as were anciently due and payable out of the said country.—Rot. Pat. 11 Eliz.—He was afterwards knighted, and on 12th Jan. 1587, upon his surrender of his estate, and name of O'Flahertie, and all Irish customs thereto belonging, queen Eliz. granted him all manors, castles, lordships, lands, &c. the moiety of all felons and fugitive goods, fines and amerciaments, courts and other hereditaments, in Aghnener, 4 quarters, the castle of Fowagh, the castle of O'Herie, 4 quarters, Insye-Mc. Coyne, 2 quarters, the castle of Moycollen, (the 8th part excepted,) 3 quarters, Cloynenuffe, 3 quarters, Balleneforbagh, 1 quarter, Kellroe, 1 quarter, Bathcowua, 1 quarter, Belleycowrke, 1 quarter, and Corcollen, 1 quarter, in the barony of Mocollen; the castle of Ballenmonagh, containing 18 quarters, in the barony of Rosse, county Mayo; the castle of Ballendown, 4 quarters, Ballenehinisie, 1 quarter, Ballenmoylen, 3 cartrons, Ballesellherne, 4 quarters, Moydolan, 2 quarters, Moybiley, 2 quarters, Moyared, 2 quarters, Moagg and Ardaghe, 1 quarter, Emelye, $\frac{1}{2}$ quarter Kermorney, 1 quarter, and Coneveyaghe, 1 quarter, in the barony of Ballenehinisie: all lying in the country of O'Flahertie, called Iher-Connaght, known by the names of Tuomore, Tuobegg, Connemarra and Le Joyes country, to hold to him and his heirs for ever, by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, as of the manor of Arkin, in the great Island of Arin paying all compositions.—Patent inrolled.

In 1584, disputes arose between the

heads of the family, and on 3d July, 1585, the lord deputy, at the instance of Rory O'Flahertie, issued a commission to examine into the causes of these feuds. Upon this occasion it appeared, that the territory of Gnobegg, or Knockbegg, was the ancient inheritance of Gilleduff O'Flahertie, who died seized thereof in his demesne as of fee, and, that he and his sons lived at the Moyculle, and were the O'Flaherties, and governors or chiefs of all the country; and had services and duties out of every part of Gnobegg; that he had an elder brother, that had no part or portion of Gnobegg, but had his portion, Gnomore; that Gnobegg contained the towns of Moycullen, (the chief town in the same,) Clonduff or Cloyduff, Balle Mc. Gellevey, Theowre, Killehahine, Curraghduff, Cossowon or Cosschoone, Barna or Barney, Forbough, Spiddell, Coyhowny or Kille-Rowe, Moyseragh or Moyaskrogh, Bocarna, Chayry, or Og-harry, Tollokhan or Tulkihan, Ballyquirke, Balleaulgoyrie or Mulgurney, Curcullen or Curculen, Leytermillanie or Letermylany, and Gaerinana, the island of Innyshe Mc. Fryan or Innishe McAtirre, with the lands in or of Connemara, Airdbeara, Ballinlenry or Ballinbury, Balle Ihry or Baile Iwile, and Rynvylehoway or Rynvyleohway: that the said Gnobegg was meared and bounded, from Srawan Icarwan or Srwan-Igravan, north, to Galway, south, saving the liberties, and so along the river of Alley or Donkelly, west, to Galway, east: that Hugh More McGilleduff was son and heir to the said Mc. Killeduffe, and his best son, and was possessed of all Gnobegg; and left Hughe Oge O'Flahertie, his son and heir, who died, seized of the said premises: he left them to his son and heir, Moriortagh or Murtagh O'Flahertie; who left the said Rory, his only son and heir, by his wife, Evelyn ny Kirevan: that said Moriortagh was slain, in the castle of Moycullen, by the sept of Edmund O'Flahertie, viz. Bryan and Donell Crona, and the sept of Moriortagh Reogh, together with four of his sons, and that the said Hug Oge, then O'Flahertie, grandfather to the said Rory, was taken by the murderers; and with them detained with-

kingdom; and immediately after the following entry occurs in the annals of the town: 1161, strange ships were seen in the harbour of Galway Dune, and the following day the town took fire. The annals of Innisfallen mention another conflagration, in 1170,¹³ but are otherwise silent as to the town. It may, however, be concluded, that this disaster was speedily remedied; for although the combustible matter of which buildings were then almost universally composed, rendered them more liable to the dreadful catastrophe of fire than structures of a more modern date and form, they were, at the same time, much more easily put together or repaired, in

out meat or drink, until he died by famine, at Moycullen: that O'Flaherty used to eat meat among the inhabitants of the said places, and had money paid to him; and, that the septe of the Purcelles, now inhabitants of the said lands, confessed, that there was due to the septe of Gilleduff, 40 pence sterling, of annual rent, (but now of late Morogh-ne-Do, waxing stronge, took the rent,) and also that they had 3s. 4d. annual rent, out of the Island of Eddy, paid by the Purcelles.—Rot. Pat. 29 Eliz.

On 16th August, 1607, it was found by inquisition, taken at Galway, that Teige ne bolly O'Flaherty of Arde was chief of his name, and that he had the title of O'Flaherty, since the time of Sir Henry Sidney, lord deputy; that he was seized in fee of the castle of Arde, and 2 cartrons, called the two Ardes, and, under a division between him and others of his competitors, of one half of Ballyndorvin and Ballinahinch; that as chief of his name, or Tanist, he was seized in fee, of the castle and island of Ballynahinch, and the fishings of the river of Owenmore, until one Teig Mac Morroughe ne dubh, his two sons, and Murrough ne More O'Flaherty dispossessed him of the same; that by the composition with queen Eliz. he was to hold the entire by knights service, as of the castle or manor of Ard kyn in the great island of Arren. It was also found, that he had mortgaged several lands, to Richard Martin, of Galway, merchant.

At the same time, a similar inquest was held, as to Murrough ne More, finding all his extensive property and chief rents in Conamara, and several Irish customs, viz. that for every cow, horse, &c. stolen within the barony seven-fold restitution should be made to O'Flaherty; that the natives should furnish him with a butt of wine at certain times, that they should not take wreck of the sea, without giving him notice, and whenever he should give any of his daughters in marriage, that they should bestow a heifer, out of every quarter of land, &c.—Inq.

Murrough ne More made the following mortgages, amongst others, of several lands, the fee simple

of which are now held by the descendants of the mortgagees.—Id.

28th April, 1613. To Gilleduffe Mc. Mortagh, the cartron of Derrynclare, for four mileh cows.

8th Sept. 1615. To Nicholas Martin, of Galway, merchant, Lettereamsy, for 20l.

2nd May. 1618. To the same, several town lands, parcells of Ballinahinch, for 100l.

8th June, 1622. To Nicholas Martin, Geoffry Lynch and Martin Browne, the lands of Leecarrow, Urrislonan, Ardage, &c. for 1000 years for 131l.

————— To Nicholas Martin, Edward Browne and Martin Browne, the lands of Clegganbegg, &c. for 100l.

8th May. 1623. To Johnock Lynch, &c. the lands of Renville, Lettergosse, Ballinakill, Ard bear, Ardkill, and several others.

3d June, 1624. To Edmund Ffrench, James Darey, &c. 3 cartrons in Monymore, &c. for 80l.

Murrough ne More, who, until the latter period of his life never obeyed any other than the Brehon laws, was perhaps, the last of the old Irish chieftains. He died on 16th April, 1626, leaving Murrough ne Mart his son and heir. During the civil wars which followed this period, the different clans of the name, lost almost the entire of their properties; a comparatively small portion, however, still remains in the possession of Thomas Henry O'Flaherty, Esq. of Lemonfield, County Galway, the lineal descendant of one of the chiefs of this illustrious family.

13 Dapnaic Colum-cille do torgaó pan bliadán ro, gno teamplaíó, asar carltean Saitlime, asar Uroptáan map an cceaóna.—Ann. innisf.

consequence of the general slightness of their texture and materials. This circumstance accounts for the many melancholy narratives of destructive fires, with which our ancient chronicles, and even the annals of this town abound; and it is to be regretted, that when the authors of these works, considered such visitations, like wars and battles, as too memorable to be silently passed over; they, at the same time, omitted many things which to them appeared of less importance, but which would now be more generally useful and interesting. Amongst these may be particularly classed, descriptions of the actual state and improvement of the country, which seldom found their way into these monastic compilations; and which cause so great a scarcity of topographical knowledge, relative to the middle ages in Ireland.

But another and much more important era than any which has hitherto occurred, occasioned by the Anglo-Norman invasion of this Island, now opens to our view. With that memorable and important event originated several new sources of information both of a local and general nature. The transactions of the country, but particularly such portions of it as fell immediately under the dominion of the invaders, were recorded; and the greater part of the accumulated muniments thus produced, was preserved by means of established repositories, and carefully handed down to the present day. Peculiar facilities of investigation have enabled the author of this work to glean from those national archives, several facts illustrative of the history of this ancient town; they will be found fully detailed in the ensuing pages, and which will, it is hoped, in some degree compensate for the deficiency of more early information.

CHAP. III.

FROM THE ANGLO-NORMAN INVASION TO THE YEAR 1484.

Arrival of Strongbow accompanied by William Fitz-Andelm de Burgo, ancestor of the family of Clanricarde—Landing of Henry II.—Submission and subsequent revolt of the Irish Princes—Unsuccessful attempt of Roderic O'Connor, the monarch, on Dublin—Treaty between him and Henry II.—First hostile incursion of the Invaders into Connaught, and their defeat—Grant of the Province to De Burgo—Deposition and death of Roderic—Connor, his successor, defeats De Courcy—Cathal, who succeeds, joins with Meiler Fitz-Henry the Justiciary, and subdues De Burgo—Treaty between him and King John—Cathal dies, and Henry III. orders the Lord Justice to seize on all Connaught and deliver it to Richard De Burgo—Fedhlim, who succeeded Cathal, visits Henry in England, and obtains an order to be restored to his territory—The Castle of Galway fortified by O'Flaherty—Taken by De Burgo, who strengthens the Castle and protects and encourages the Town—Walls, great Gate, and Tower erected—Increase of Trade and Commerce—Church of St. Nicholas built—Dispute between the families of Blake and Athy—Death of William Earl of Ulster, and seizure of Galway by Mac William Eighter—Charters of Murage and of the Staple granted by Edward III.—Removal of the Staple—Merchants of Limerick jealous of the increasing trade and prosperity of Galway—Revolt and submission of the Town—Two Charters granted by Richard II.—Charter of Henry IV.—Mercantile Regulations—Establishment of a Mint—Charter of Edward IV. and Conflagration in the Town.

THE successful invasion of Ireland in the twelfth century, by a few enterprising adventurers, is an event which has long astonished the world. The suddenness and insignificance of the expedition, the easy and unaccountable submission, almost without a struggle, of a numerous and warlike people to a foreign foe, and the vast importance of the acquisition to the crown and kingdom of England justly excited the admiration of mankind. The causes which led to this great and memorable revolution will be found fully detailed in the histories of the times; its effects, which still continue, and which will influence millions yet unborn, are too well ascertained to require any new description: and as neither properly come within the limits of a work of this nature the following pages will, therefore, be confined to the local and provincial transactions which afterwards took place, so far as they could be found to affect, or have any bearing on, the history of Galway.

In the year 1171, Richard Earl Strongbow landed near Waterford, accompanied by William Fitz-Andelm de Burgo, a principal leader in the army, who, after the success of the invaders, was appointed to the chief

government of Ireland.¹⁴ Henry II. soon afterwards arrived with an army of 4000 men, and having received the submission of some of the petty princes of Leinster and Munster, and of several of the bishops and clergy, he returned to England. Immediately on his departure, the princes and chieftains who had so recently submitted to his authority, as if on reflection they felt ashamed of the pusillanimity with which they bowed their necks to the yoke of servitude, revolted and commenced hostilities. Roderic O'Connor, king of Connaught and monarch of Ireland, who tamely permitted the encroachments of the English, now, when it was too late, roused from his lethargy, crossed the Shannon with a considerable army, and proceeded towards Dublin, which he invested: but in consequence of the unhappy dissensions which prevailed among his troops, and which, amongst the Irish, were at all times the cause of their ruin, he was defeated, obliged to retreat, and sue for peace. He accordingly dispatched deputies to England, who met the king at Windsor, and there a peace was most solemnly concluded between the two monarchs. Roderic consented to do homage, and pay tribute to the king of England; whereupon he was to hold his kingdom of Connaught, with the title of king, under him, *Rex sub eo*, and that in as ample a manner as he had done before the coming of the English. Our historians are unanimous in declaring that there never was any treaty more scrupulously adhered to than this by Roderic, while few were ever more flagrantly violated than it afterwards was, by Henry.

In the year 1178, the English first set a hostile foot in Connaught. Murrough, one of Roderic's sons, having received, or probably pretending to have received, some supposed injury, privately dispatched messengers to Milo de Cogan,¹⁵ who then lay in Dublin inviting him to march into Connaught, with a sufficient force, and promising, that he would be ready to assist him: holding forth, at the same time, great prospects of plunder. Milo, who only wanted the invitation, immediately set out, with upwards of 500 men, and soon arrived in Connaught; but having met there with a reception far different from what he expected, he was obliged to make a shameful retreat, with considerable loss. The traitor Murrough, was deservedly sentenced to lose his eyes, and suffer perpetual imprisonment; but having been soon afterwards liberated, he became the guilty cause of the most lamentable dissensions.

William Fitz-Andelm de Burgo, who, during his government of Ireland,

¹⁴ This nobleman, was the great ancestor of the powerful family of De Burgo and the Earls of Clanricarde, of whom frequent mention will be made throughout this work. Of his numerous and opulent posterity by two wives, the first the daughter of the king of England, and the second the daughter of Daniel more O'Brien, the last king of Cashel, Gratianus Lucas speaks as follows—*Cujus propago adeo longe lateque per hiberniam diffusa est, ut in singulis Insulae regionibus latifundia plurima, et summam*

plerumque dominationem retulerit; honorariis titulis et summa rerum administratione potia.—Cambrensis Eversus, pa. 53.

¹⁵ John de Cogan, a descendant of this Milo's, about the year 1290, built the Franciscan Friary at Clare-yn-dowl now Clare Galway. It is a beautiful and curious piece of Gothic architecture, and is still in considerable preservation; particularly the high tower, which is raised on arches. The castle was afterwards erected by one of the family of De Burgos.

formed the plan of obtaining a grant of the entire province of Connaught, (where, he hoped, in consequence of its distracted state, to be able to establish himself,) was no sooner recalled, than he confidently applied to Henry on the subject; of course representing Roderic as only waiting for an opportunity to retrieve his ruined affairs. The king, who ought to have recoiled with indignation from such a request, on the contrary, in open violation of the treaty which he had so recently entered into, (and which, it could not even be alleged was infringed on in any one article by Roderic,) in the year 1179, made the desired grant to William Fitz-Andelm and his heirs; and although the grantee never, during his life, gained any benefit by the concesssion, the country, notwithstanding, became thenceforward the melancholy theatre of war and confusion.

Soon after this grant was obtained, Hugo de Lacy, one of the boldest of the adventurers, entered Connaught for the purpose of plundering, but being resolutely opposed, he saved himself and his men by a precipitate flight. The province is described as being particularly disturbed in 1181, and these disturbances seem to have continued for the five succeeding years. In 1186, the rebellious sons of the unfortunate Roderic were the first to dethrone their unhappy father; they abstained, it is true, from the heinous crime of parricide, but they obliged him (perhaps to prevent it,) to fly and take refuge in the venerable abbey of Cong, in the present County of Mayo, where he found an asylum for the remainder of his life. Connor, one of his sons, placed himself on the throne, and soon signalized himself by routing, with great slaughter, John de Courcy, who, in 1186, taking advantage of the existing broils, made an incursion into Connaught. Connor did not long enjoy his usurped dignity, he was killed by one of his brothers, who, in return was slain by his nephew, one of Connor's sons, whereupon Cathal, or Charles, surnamed *Crovdearg*, or the *bloody handed*, succeeded, and, soon after his succession, gained a victory over De Courcy, whom he defeated with the loss of 200 foot and 30 horse; in commemoration of which, he founded the abbey of Collis Victoria, now called Knockmoy in the County of Galway.

Roderic O'Connor, the last of the Irish monarchs, died in Cong, where he had lived in retirement for the last twelve years of his life. Immediately after his death, William Fitz-Andelm made every preparation to assert his claim to Connaught, and with an intention of making Cathal Carragh O'Connor, who had views on the throne, subservient to his designs, he joined with him, routed *Crovdearg*, and the confederate troops of Ulster and Meath, and established Carragh: but not finding him so obedient to his wishes as he had expected, he soon after declared against him, and joining with *Crovdearg*, they defeated Carragh, who was slain in the field, and his death led to the restoration of his more fortunate rival. The power and fame of De Burgo now became so extensive, that he openly declared himself independent of the crown of England; made Limerick the seat of his power, determined on war and peace at pleasure, and was both feared and hated as well by the English as by the Irish chieftains. Cathal *Crovdearg*, who experienced his changeable disposition, was obliged again to

have recourse to arms for his protection; and joining with Meiler Fitz-Henry, the Justiciary, they marched towards Limerick, where they soon forced that powerful chief to surrender and return to his allegiance. He appears to have remained quiet the remainder of his life. In the year 1200 he founded the famous abbey of Athassel in the county of Tipperary; and having died in 1204, he was there interred, leaving Richard, Lord of Connaught, his heir and successor. It is observed by our historians, that the foregoing expedition of Cathal and the Justiciary, was the first instance in which an Englishman was ever seen at the head of the native troops of Ireland.

The death of William Fitz-Andelm did not retrieve the affairs of Cathal, but rather opened upon him more dangerous foes; to avoid whom, he wisely determined to enter into a treaty with king John, and if possible to depend upon him for safety and protection. Accordingly in the year 1206, he surrendered two parts of Connaught, and agreed to pay one hundred marks yearly for the third part, which he was to hold in vassalage;¹⁶ but notwithstanding this treaty, it appears that this proverbially perfidious English monarch, on 12th September, 1215, granted to Richard de Burgo, the entire of Connaught, which was stated to have been held by his father, at the yearly rent of three hundred marks. This grant was confirmed in 1218 by Henry III. who, for the fine of a thousand marks, granted "the whole kingdom of Connaught" to Richard de Burgo and his heirs; but in this concession it was provided that it should not take effect until after the death of Cathal, who still maintained some shadow of rule and dignity, which he preserved until 1223, when he died. Tirlough, his brother, succeeded, but he was soon after expelled by Geoffry de Maurisco, the Justiciary, and Hugh, a son of Cathal, was established; who, soon after endeavouring to render himself independant, was assassinated by order of Geoffry, and Tirlough was once more restored.

Such was the gloomy picture of affairs in Connaught, and the melancholy state to which its native princes were reduced, when a mandate, dated 12th June, 1225, arrived from England, directing William Earl Marshall, the Lord Justice, to seize on the whole country of Connaught, (stated to have been forfeited by O'Connor,) and to deliver it to Richard de

¹⁶ The following communication was made by John to Meiler Fitz-Henry on this occasion.—"Rex Meilero filio Henrici Justiciario Hiberniæ, Sciatis quod Deremuit exposuit nobis ex parte Regis Connaicie quod idem Rex exigit tenere de nobis, terciam partem terre de Connoc pro C Marcis per annum, sibi et heredibus suis, nomine Baronie, et pro duabus partibus ejusdem terre, reddet nobis annuatim, debitum tributum, scilicet CCC Marcas. Et perterea concedet nobis, duos cantredos cum nativis eorundem cantredorum, de predictis duabus partibus ad firmandum in eis, vel ad faciendum inde voluntatem nostram; et ideo vobis mandamus, quod si hoc videretis esse nostrum

melius, id fieri faciatis, quia ad hoc bene assentimus, si vos videretis expedire, vertuntamen curam et operam adhibeatis diligentem, si poteritis opponere incrementum de dono propter hoc concedendum, quia sicut audivimus, ipse CCCC marcas, propter hoc dabit, ad minus, de gersum, et efficiatis eciam quod donat de vaccis et aliis rebus, per annum ad sustinendum castra nostra, que illuc firmavimus. Teste me ipso, apud Brehull, 20 die Decembris; per ipsum Regem.—Rot. Cl. 7 Joh. Tur. Lond. For a subsequent dispatch from the King to the Justiciary, containing a recital of the answer of the latter to the above, see Leland's Hist. Vol. I. p. 175.

Burgo, at the yearly rent of three hundred marks, for the first five years, and after that period, of five hundred marks, for ever: excepting however five choice cantreds of land near Athlone, which were supposed to have been reserved for the use of that garrison. This unprincipled grant was obtained through the influence of the famous Hubert de Burgo, Justiciary of England, in favour of his kinsman, it was finally confirmed at Westminster, 21st December, 1226, and in the year following Richard de Burgo was appointed to the government of Ireland.

The new governor with a view of promoting his views, and advancing his interest in Connaught, stirred up the usual cause of dissension in this unhappy province. He deposed Tirlough from the sovereignty, and established Fedhlim O'Connor, another son of Cathal, who afterwards proved himself the bravest and most politic of Roderic's descendants, and the only one who for any time retained the appearance of power. This prince, after acquiring his independance, resolutely resisted De Burgo's claims on his territory, and fortunately for him, his adversary's great friend, the Justiciary of England, having, at the very time, fallen into disgrace, the former was removed from the government here; and the Irish prince profiting by the temporary embarrassment of his rival, considerably augmented his power. But still apprehensive that he could not long support himself in Connaught by his own exertions, he suddenly passed over to England, attended by the Lord Justice, and there laid a long detail of his grievances and complaints against De Burgo before the monarch. Henry received his royal visitor in a manner worthy of his rank and dignity, and seemed so fully persuaded of the justice of his cause, that he commanded the Lord Justice and nobility of Ireland to afford him every assistance, and use all their efforts to establish him in his territory.

About this time the town and castle of Galway (which the reader was necessarily obliged so long to lose sight of,) became of importance to the parties contending for the sovereignty of Connaught. After the invasion, in 1170, the castle was strongly fortified, and the town was put into a state of defence.¹⁷ It then consisted of a small community, composed of a few families of fishermen and merchants; (many of whose names have been already given in the first chapter,) and was principally under the protection of the O'Flahertys, who held the castle and surrounding territory, as feudal lords from the kings of Connaught. Upon the return of Fedhlim from England, Hugh O'Flaherty, chief of his name, declared in his favour, and in 1230 fortified himself in the castle of Galway.¹⁸ He was besieged on the east side of the river by Richard de Burgo, but being effectually relieved from the west by Hugh O'Connor, De Burgo, after several ineffectual endeavours to take the castle, was obliged to raise the siege. Irritated at

¹⁷ As many readers may be curious to know the particular situation of this ancient edifice, it has been ascertained that it stood in that part of the Town, called in the old map, the red Earl's lane, or Boaher an-Iarlagh, near the late county Court-house. For centuries after the above period it was known by the name of the red Earl's castle, but it has been long since entirely demolished.

¹⁸ Ann. Connacise, MS. Hib. Trin. Coll. Dub.

the spirited resistance of Fedhlim and his adherents, he at length summoned all his forces, and in 1232, succeeded in driving that unfortunate prince from the province; and, continuing his success, he finally took his prisoner, and established Hugh O'Connor in his place. The town and castle of Galway on this occasion, fell into his hands, and having then discovered the great importance of the place, he, in the same year, built several considerable additions to the castle. Fedhlim, having immediately after, regained his liberty and kingdom, by the death of Hugh, which took place in 1233; laid siege to Galway, and having succeeded in taking the castle, he demolished all the new works: but his powerful antagonist, Richard de Burgo, soon after recovered the town, and thenceforth it became the principal residence of himself and his descendants,¹⁹ and finally the capital of the province, which it still continues to be. He then fortified it against the incursions of the Irish, and appointed a magistrate, who was indiscriminately called a provost or bailiff, and who governed the inhabitants by established laws.

Fedhlim O'Connor preserved his ideal title, and with it, a scanty remnant of the kingdom of his ancestors, until the year 1265,²⁰ when he

¹⁹ Richard de Burgo appears to have been a man of eminent military talents, he was the greatest, most persevering, and, finally, triumphant, enemy of the ancient race of O'Connor, whose power in Connaught he effectually destroyed, and as firmly established his own, and that of his descendants. He built the castle of Loughrea in 1236, and going to France, to meet the king of England, he died on the voyage in 1243, leaving Walter, the first Earl of Ulster, his heir and successor. A.D. 1247 the Town and Castle of Galway were burnt.—Annals.

²⁰ On a great roll of the pipe of the 46th year of Hen. III. A.D. 1262, discovered, by the author, in the Exchequer in Dublin, there appear the following entries of the arrears then due by those rival chieftains out of this devoted province.

Walter de Burgo owes 91l. 15s. arrears of his last account of the rent of 25 cantreds in Connaught.

Ffithelmu O'Konechor (Fedhlim O'Connor) owes 600 marks, for himself and Oeth (Hugh) his son, for having the king's pardon for all transgressions by them committed in Ireland. The said Feidhlim owes 5000 marks and 2000 cows, for having three cantreds of land in Connaught, in fee farm, viz. the cantreds of Mackney, Tyrtotha, and Moylurg; as is contained in a certain schedule of his fine, and the fines of some others, and in his letters patent of the obligation of the said fine.

The said Fedhlim owes 600l. rent of the said three cantreds for this year, and the year past, as is contained in the writing obligatory of him the said Fedhlim, in the treasury; and 1100l. arrears of the same for many years preceding: and also owes for the cantreds of Tirmany, for this

and the last three years.

Walter de Burgo owes 1000 marks rent of 25 Cantreds in Connaught, for this year and the year last past, and 1480l. 14s. 1d. arrears of the same for many years preceding.—Rot. Pip.

On similar Rolls preserved in Birmingham Tower, it appears that in 1281, Cathel O'Konechor paid a fine of 200 cows for the king's peace. Thomas McDermod and Brien McDermod 24 cows for the same. The sept of the O'Kellies 120 cows for having the king's army removed from them, and O'Flendegan 4 cows for having entry into two town lands near Roscommon.—Rot. Pip. 9, B.T.—A.D. 1285 Kathell O'Konechor paid 200 marks for having entry into two and a half cantreds in Connaught for 3 years, and 300 marks for the rent during that time; and John Mape and John de Exon' were commanded not to deliver him the letters patent, until they should get security for the money.—Cathel O'Konchor roth, 240 cows for having the king's peace. O'Fergill 120 cows, and Gilbert O'Kelly and David O'Kelly 10l. for the same. Donald O'Kelli, Oweyn O'Kelly, Donechad Moy-nagh O'Kelly, Mackothe O'Kelly, Donechad fil' Con O'Kelly, and Magnes fil' Lewelyn O'Kelly fined 100s. for contempt. At the same time, the burgesses of Roscommon paid 10l. for the farm of the town yearly, and 10l. yearly for the pleas and perquisites there.—Rot. Pip. 15, B.T.

On an Exchequer roll, A.D. 1324, there is an entry that in that year, the three cantreds, which Fedhlim O'Conogher formerly held of the king in Roscommon, were granted to Theodore O'Congher of Connaught; paying, yearly, into the Exchequer 100 marks, under condition of his delivering to the king a sufficient hostage for paying said rent, and also for

died, leaving his son Hugh to succeed him. The latter on his accession, having asserted and supported his claim to the royal name and dignity, Walter de Burgo levied a body of forces, and marched against him. Hugh, on his side, made every preparation to meet the foe, and a battle took place, in which he was completely victorious. De Burgo did not long survive this defeat; he died in the castle of Galway, in 1271; leaving Richard, commonly called the Red Earl of Ulster, his heir and successor.^{20a} Hugh himself was afterwards slain, with 2000 men, by M'Dermott of Moylurg, who was another rival; and thenceforth, until the total destruction of the house of O'Connor in 1316, Connaught exhibited a horrid scene of blood and confusion.

Amidst these troubles, the crowded town of Galway was sheltered under the powerful protection of the De Burgos. In the time of Walter and Richard, the first and second Earls of Ulster, it increased considerably in trade and population, owing principally to their presence, and consequent protection against Fedhlim O'Connor, his successors, and the surrounding Irish. It was, however, found necessary, in order effectually to prevent their incursions, which were frequent and destructive,²¹ to fortify the town, and surround it with walls. This work was accordingly commenced about the year 1270; and there is still extant, on the great roll of the pipe, 6 Edw. I.—the account of Stephen Annery and Adam Albus, collectors of the murage of the town of Galvy, in Connaught, from the festival of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 56 Hen. III. until the same festival, 3 Edw. I.²² in which they account for 29l. 7s. 6d. received for customs of wine, salt, cloth, leather and divers other merchandize,²³ whereout they expended 29l. 4s. 5d. in masons and carpenters wages, and expenses of workmen assisting them in the wood and stone work during that time. On the same roll, there also appears the account of Robert Bayon, collector of the murage of Galway, from the Sunday next after the festival of St. Martin, 6 Edw. I. until Tuesday on the morrow of St. Simon and Jude, 8 Edw. I. wherein he accounts for 27l. 13s. 11¾d.

keeping the king's peace; and Henry Mape was ordered to receive and securely keep the said hostage.—Rot. Mem. 18 Edw. II.—Not long after, viz. 1331, John Morice, Escheator of Ireland, returned that "Tyrdelagh O'Conghyr, prince of the Irish in Connaught, and Cathyl, his brother, and other Irish, who are against the king's peace, forcibly occupy the lands of Richard de Exon' in Connaught, so that nothing could be received out of the same.—Rot. Pip. 52, B.T.

^{20a} William, his second son, was called William de Athenkip, from a place of that name on the Shannon, where he was put to death by Hugh O'Connor, while his hostage, in the year 1270.

²¹ On the roll of the pipe, 51 Hen. III. Gillepatrick Mac Karly was fined 50s. on obtaining his pardon for burning the town of Galvy, and for the death of David Bree; and several other instances of a

similar kind are found to have occurred in these turbulent and unhappy times.

²² Murage was a liberty granted by the king, for collecting money towards walling a town. Anno 3 Edw. I. chap. 3. A murage charter, therefore, must, about this time, have been granted to Galway, to authorize the collectors to levy the above customs; but, after the most diligent search, no trace of it could be discovered among the few records of these earlier periods at present remaining. In our search, however, was found a murage charter granted to the baliffs and good men of Athenry, dated 13 Oct. 1312.—Rot. Pat. 4 Edw. II.—On the same roll there appears a royal mandate, to prevent war between Richard de Burgo and O'Brien of Thomond.

²³ De vino, sale, lana, pannis, coreis, pellibus omnium agnorum et caprarum, piscibus, alecibus, et aliis diversis et minutis mercandis.—Rot. Pip.

customs of wine, salt, wool, cloth, leather, skins of all lambs and goats, fish, herrings, and other divers and minute merchandize, at the same time coming in during that time, whereout he expended, in making a large fire to burn lime, and for wood carried to the same, and for the wages of masons and other workmen employed for breaking stone, and conveying it to the same place during the same time, and for the wages of workmen and others assisting the masons to make walls on the side towards the sea, and to build a tower beyond the great gate,²⁴ and in buying iron for fabricating crows, pickaxes, nails, and other tools, 5l. 17s. 4d.: and further, for wages of carpenters working about the tower, and for carriage of timber and carpenters work at the gate, and for various other necessary works, 11l. 5s. 7d.—The contents of this ancient record are thus particularly specified, as they recount the first considerable improvements which were made in the town after it was possessed by the English settlers; and, trifling as the amount of the sums expended on these works may appear in modern times, they will be found, upon a comparative calculation of the then value of money, to have been very considerable.

Before the erection of these walls and works of defence, the town, though it was, even then, the principal mart and most distinguished place in Connaught, was little superior, either in extent or form, to a considerable modern village: but after these works and improvements were completed, it presented the appearance of a regularly fortified town; and, by thus insuring additional security and protection, in those turbulent times, to the lives and properties of the people, it continued gradually to increase. Several new settlers, from time to time, added to its wealth and trade, and considerably augmented the number of its inhabitants; but particularly about this period the families of *Blake*, *Bodkin*, *Ffont*, *Joyes*, *Lynch*, *Martin* and *Skerrett*, settled in the town, and principally laid the foundation of its subsequent prosperity. The walls erected towards the sea were intended to prevent any descent from the western parts of Munster and Connaught; and the tower, beyond the great gate, was erected as a defence against any incursions from the interior of the country, and particularly by Lough Corrib, which it seems to have been particularly designed to guard against. The building of the walls was continued at intervals during the succeeding century, at the termination of which the town was entirely inclosed.

After these fortifications were erected, the foreign trade of Galway improved considerably.²⁵ Dermod More O'Brien, grandson of Soan Tiege

²⁴ In factura unius rogi, al calcem comburendum, et pro brisca, ibidem carrando, et in stipendis cementarorum, et alorum operaorium, petram frangantium, et portantium, ibidem, per idem temus, et in stipendiis operariorum, tractantium et juvantium predictos cementarios, ad muros versus fare faciendum, et ad turrin ultra magnum portam faciendum.—Rot. Pip. B.T.

²⁵ The extent of the commerce of Galway, way, even at this early date, may be ascertained from the following view of its customs and revenues, compared with those paid in Limerick for corresponding periods. In the great roll of the Pipe No. 8, preserved in Bermingham tower, it appears that the neat produce of the customs paid in Limerick from the 16th April, 5 Edw. I. (1277) to the festival of

or Tiege Aluinn, who resided at Tromra in Clare in 1277, received 12 tuns of wine yearly, as a tribute from the merchants of the town, in consideration of protecting the harbour and trade from all pirates and privateers, by

Saint Michael, in the 6th year of the same king, was 6l. 18s. and that their amount, for the same period, in Galway, was 24l. 15s. 2d. In roll 9, it appears that the produce of the customs in Limerick, from Michaelmas in the 8th, until Easter in the 10th year of Edw. I. was 21l. 5s. 2d. and that in Galway, for the same period, they amounted to 53l. 5s. 10½d. In roll 15, the customs of Limerick, from the festival of All Saints in the 14th, to the same festival in the 15th year of Edw. I. amounted to 9l. 18s. while in Galway they produced for the same year, 38l. 15s. 7d. Soon after this, the trade of Limerick appears to have been reduced almost to nothing, while that of Galway continued in the same flourishing state; for on roll 17, the neat produce of the customs of Limerick appear to have amounted only to 1s. 6d. for a period when they amounted in Galway to 18l. 4s. 5½d.

The subjoined list and amount of the customs paid in Galway, for several years before the year 1400, have been carefully abstrateed from the great rolls of the Pipe, preserved in Bermingham Tower.

A.D.	1276	£40 15 0½
1277	24 15 2	
1278	7 8 0	
1281	53 5 10¾	
1282	22 2 6	
1288	18 4 5½	
1289 to 1291	16 7 3	
1290 to 1292	20 7 0	
1292 & 1293	20 0 0	
1293 & 1294	21 10 5½	
1296 & 1297	68 7 1	
1302	20 0 0	
1303	4 7 1	
1311	60 0 0	
1321 & 1322	36 2 3	
1386	239 6 11	
1387		
1388		
1389		
1390		
1391		
1392		
1393 & 1394	118 5 10	
1398	78 5 0	

For the years omitted there are no accounts on record.

In 1283 the following account was returned of the possessions which belonged to Walter de Burgo in Galway and Connaught, and which Avelina his widow held in dower, from the day next before the festival of St. Urban the Pope, 2d. Edw. I. to the 22d. February, 8th Edw. I.

Town of Galway.

For 11 acres of the demesne of the town, which, with other lands before the town, were delivered by the king's writ

	£	s.	d.
to Richard son and heir of said Walter - - - -	2	0	0
For the rents of the burgages there - - - -	35	17	6
For the lands held by Wil. de Mountenaye - - - -	1	7	6
For one place which William de Schepeshend holds there -	0	5	6
For the mill - - - -	36	13	4
For the fishing of the salmon weirs - - - -	11	0	0
For the rent of the eel weirs -	10	11	0
For the toll there - - - -	11	0	0
For the rent of the burgages of the town - - - -	17	17	6
For the perquisites of the Hundred Court - - - -	11	0	0
For the increase of the said perquisites - - - -	0	10	0
For the increase of the salmon and eel weirs - - - -	1	6	3
	£139	11	0

The principal Anglo-Norman Tenants of Walter de Burgo in Connaught.

A.D. 1280.

Thomas Fitz Lyons and John Fitz Thomas, 2 cantreds in the lands of Kermoy and Kervlotehmarne.
Henry de Rupe in Sylmorne.
John le Chaun in Moynterathy.
John Fitz Wil. de Cogan in Moyntermodlinan.
John Fitz Robert in Oloman.
John de Cogan, sen. in Kenaletthy.
Hubert de Burgo in Korat heg.
Ric. de Rupella in Monbrach.
John Dolfyn in Rathgorgyn.
Mich. le Norreys in Casselfidigan.
John Lynet,
Norman Fitz William, } in Cathernemot
Robert Barun. } and Cathoel.
William Hose,
John Dolfyn in Galboly.
William Core in Rathrody.
Eadmundus Huskard and John de Burgo.
Thomas Fitz Jordan and Dondonald in Kylmaletbyn. and Theobald Pinceruns (Butler) the castle of Mylyck.
—Rot. Pip. 11. B.T.

A.D. 1365 June 2. Joan, daughter and heir of William Sepishend, chief miller of the mills of the town of Galway, gave and confirmed to Thomas Martyn, and his heirs, all the profits and emoluments arising out of the said mills of Galway, descended her by hereditary right; to hold as freely and quietly as her said father, John her grandfather, and William her great grandfather, held the same of the Lords Walter, Richard and William de Burgo, late Earls of Ulster and Lords of Connaught.—Rot. Pat. 27. 28 Hen. VIII.

maintaining a suitable maritime force for the purpose.²⁶ The commercial duties also, which in these times were payable in the town, sufficiently evince its increasing consequence. In the year 1303, the revenue called the new customs (being an impost of three pence in the pound, due from merchant strangers only, for all commodities imported or exported,) was first granted to the crown, and in the same year these customs at Galway were farmed out to Richard le Blake, for one year, for 32l. In 1306 Thomas Sage and Simon Long were appointed collectors of the same duties, and also of the custom of two shillings for every hogshead of wine imported; and in 1307 they were granted for one year to Thomas Dolfyn, on the security of Edmund Husee, Philip Purcell, Richard le Blake, and William Seman. In October of the same year, the great customs of the town, viz. those payable on wool, sheepskins, or woollfells, and leather exported, were granted to Crucheus Hubert; and the new customs were, at the same time, farmed to Crucheus Delpas, for the sum of 24l.²⁷ These extracts, of which many more could be produced, sufficiently point out the extent and gradual increase of the commerce of Galway at this period. It was not, however, entirely uninterrupted, but had to contend against many difficulties and disadvantages, occasioned by those animosities which always subsisted between the English settlers and the original inhabitants of the country. About the time last alluded to, violent contentions broke out between the Lords of the Pale and the native Irish, and particularly between the Earl of Ulster, O'Brien, and the Geraldines in Thomond; by which the trade of the town was so much impeded, that Andrew Gerrard, a Florentine merchant, who was keeper of the customs in 1310, had a

26 The O'Briens, of Tromra, a territory in Thomond, which was part of the ancient patrimonial estate of the O'Briens of Arran (descendants of Bryan Boromhe) were sovereign Lords of the Isles of Arran in the bay of Galway, and of Tromra in the County of Clare, until the reign of Queen Elizabeth; as appears by an address which the Mayor and Sheriffs of the City of Galway wrote in their favour to that Queen, wherein it is mentioned that the corporation of that city paid them an additional tribute of wine, in consideration of their protection and expenses in guarding the bay and harbour of Galway against pirates and coast plunderers. An authentic copy of that address is possessed by John O'Brien of Clontis, in the county of Limerick, esquire, who is now the worthy district chief of that princely family.—O'Brien Dict.

It may not be uninteresting to annex a copy of the address here alluded to. It was signed on 30th March, 1588, by John Blake, the mayor, and Walter Martin and Anthony Kirrivan, bailiffs, and countersigned by Anthony Dermot, notary, whereby they testify to Queen Elizabeth in favor of Murrough Mac Turlogh O'Brien, then living, that the Mac

Tieges of Arran his ancestors, were, under her Majesty and her predecessors, the temporal captains or lords of the islands of Arran, and their territories and hereditaments elsewhere under the name of Mac Tiege O'Brien of Arran, time out of man's memory; and that they had seen the said Murrough Mac Turlogh, authorised by all his sept, as chief of that name, and in possession of the premises as his own lawful inheritance, as more at large, say they, doth appear in our books of records, wherein he continued, until of late he was, by the usurping power of the O'Flaherties, expelled, from whom it is taken by some inquest found in her Majesty's favor. "We say moreover," add they, "that the sept of Mac Tiege O'Brien of Arran, since the foundation of this city and town, were aiding and assisting to ourselves and our predecessors against her Majesty's and her predecessors enemies, in all times and places whereunto they were called, as true, faithful and liege people to the crown of England, to maintain, succour and assist the town."—Collectanea.—For more of this sept see the account of the islands of Arran in another part of this book.

27 Rot. Mem. Seae.

considerable abatement: "for that it appears that the customs in Galvy were worth less in that year than theretofore, by reason of the war lately raised and carried on between Richard de Burgo and Richard de Clare in Tothemond," in the year following he had a regrant of the customs, paying yearly into the Exchequer fifty marks, for so long as he should thenceforth hold the same. These impediments, however, appear to have been but temporary; they were generally of short duration, and were finally overcome by the perseverance and industry of the inhabitants. The improvement of the town was also a constant object of their attention, and in the year 1312 they added considerably to its strength, by the addition of the great gate and the adjoining works, which were erected under the superintendence of Nicholas Lynch, surnamed the "Black Marshall."

In 1315, Ireland was invaded by Edward Bruce. Richard Earl of Ulster, joined by Fedhlim O'Connor, then the chief of his name, marched against him,²⁸ but was defeated. On their return, Roderic O'Connor, who in the

28 The readiness with which Fedhlim O'Connor co-operated with the English forces against Bruce, as he appears to have done on this occasion, is one of the many proofs, which history and our records furnish, of the early and continued inclination of the Irish to be obedient to the laws and government of England; unless when prevented by the rulers in Dublin, and the interested settlers throughout the land, by whom the persecuted natives were constantly goaded into rebellion. In the particular instance here alluded to, this disposition was peculiarly exemplified; and it is the more remarkable, as these Irish princes had, but a short time before, been most unjustly deprived of the only remaining portion of their ancient family possessions, by the following process.—In the year 1305 the Earl of Ulster presented a memorial to Edward I. against Fedhlim, under the name of "O'Conoghur an Irishman," (O'Conoghur Hibernicus,) charging him with committing several enormities on his (the Earl's) lands in Connaught; contiguous to which, he stated, that O'Connor held certain lands, in farm of the king, called Scilmorthy; which he required should be granted to him, or to any other Englishman, either at the same rent which was paid by O'Connor, or in exchange for other lands of the same value, in the reduced and peaceable parts of the country. Edward, by letter dated at Wynlyngwelde 13th July, same year, directed Sir John Wogan, lord justice of Ireland, to ascertain whether it would be to his prejudice to accede to this request; and to ascertain the value of the lands in question, and apprise him thereof without delay. The lord justice accordingly held a court of inquiry at Tristledermot, before a jury; who found that, "the lands of Scilmorthy, which contained five cantreds, came to the king's hands, after the

conquest of Connaught by William de Burgo. That a certain Irishman of the name of Feylym O'Conoghur, who stiled himself king of Connaught, held those lands from Henry III. for 500 marks yearly. That the said Feylym during his life kept the king's peace, and faithfully paid his rent; but that after his death his son arose and became a traitor, and destroyed the king's liege English subjects in those parts; and waged war against the king that now is, and prostrated his castles of Roscommon and Raudon, (which castle of Roscommon Robert D'Ufford, when first he was appointed lord justice, had repaired and strengthened at considerable expense,) in consequence of which he was outlawed, and died the king's enemy—so that from the death of Feylym O'Conoghur, to the time that said Robert D'Ufford was again appointed lord justice, the king received little or nothing out of the said lands, except one cantred called O'Many, which he granted to Robert de la Rokele in fee farm. That Robert D'Ufford, at his second coming, by means of a considerable army and at great expense, again repaired the castle of Rosecommon; and demised two cantreds and a half, part of said lands, to one O'Conoghur; and that other lords justices had afterwards granted the same to several of the O'Conoghurs, who rarely paid any rents thereout. That the lands would be worth 250 marks yearly, if the Irish were driven from those parts; but this, they say, cannot be done without great power and expense. (far exceeding the value of the land,) as O'Conoghur is one of the five captains of Ireland. And they finally say that the king, without any prejudice or injury to himself, or any other, might grant the same to the said Earl, or any other Englishman; but that it would be more for the interest of the king, and of

absence of Fedhlim made pretension to his territory, was taken prisoner and put to death; but the later, soon after driven to desperation, declared for Bruce; and, though he made several incursions on the English settlers in Connaught, he never was able to do any injury to Galway. Sir William Leigh de Burgh (who, in 1296, founded the Franciscan friary in Saint Stephen's island, outside the north gate of the town,) and Richard de Bermingham, the fourth baron of Athenry,²⁹ were sent against him. Fedhlim met them with a numerous army, and the most sanguinary engagement recorded in our history since the invasion was fought near Athenry, in the County of Galway, in which the native troops were signally defeated. Fedhlim, the last of his name who assumed sovereignty, fell in the field, and with him (as is stated) 8000 men. The walls of Athenry are said to have been built from the spoils of the battle; and the power of the O'Conors, which here received its final blow, was totally destroyed.

This signal defeat of the Irish, which effectually established the dominion of the English settlers in Connaught, was followed by a short interval of peace, the happiest effects of which were experienced by the town of Galway. The victorious De Burgos, who had now no enemy able to contend against them, ruled the entire province from the Shannon to the sea: they made Galway the chief point wherein all their power centred, and in which the principal heads of the family resided; in consequence of which, its trade, buildings and inhabitants, continued rapidly to increase. The church of Saint Nicholas was founded in 1320, and many other useful improvements were made; but the peace of the town was, about that time, disturbed by some deadly disputes which arose between the rival families

his faithful subjects in those parts, if they were granted to the Earl: because he holds all his lands in Connaught and Ulster, and has a great power of English and Irish contiguous, by which he could more effectually keep down the natives."—Rot. Placit. B. T. & Exmpl. in Offic. Rotulor.

The grant was accordingly made; and by patent, dated 16th Aug. 3 Edw. II. (1309), reciting, that Richard de Burgo held all his lands and possessions in Connaught for 500 marks yearly, and other tenures the king, in consideration of his good and faithful services to Edw. I. remitted the said yearly rent, and granted that all his lands should thenceforth be held by the other tenures or services due and accustomed thereout: and by patent dated the same day, he was appointed keeper of the castles of Roscommon, Raudon and Athlone, together with all the lands and tenements belonging to the same, during his life.—Idem.

Notwithstanding all these services and rewards, it appears that the Earl of Ulster, soon after the invasion of Bruce, was put under arrest, and imprisoned in the castle of Dublin, on suspicion of having invited over that leader. He was

soon after liberated; but not, however, until he was previously obliged to swear, that neither he, his friends, nor followers, would do any mischief to the citizens, in revenge for his imprisonment—a singular condition, which indicates as well the weakness of the then government, as the great influence of this powerful Earl. He died on 28th June, 1326, in the priory of Athassal, (founded in 1200 by his ancestor William Fitz-Andelm,) and was succeeded by his grandson William, the third Earl, who was the son of John, who died in Galway in 1313.

²⁹ This nobleman was the fourth baron in descent from William de Bermingham, who accompanied Strongbow to Ireland. He was one of the principal conquerors of Connaught, and was called by the Irish *Risdeard-na-geath*, i.e., Richard of the battles, from the many engagements by him fought, and won from the natives, viz. the battle of Togher, the battle of Finlo and the battle of Athenry, in which the king of Connaught, O'Kelly king of Maneach, and most of the nobility of Connaught and Munster, (called in those days petty kings of the territories they possessed,) were slain.—1 Vol. MSS. Pedigrees, Office of Arms.

of Blake and Athy; and, in the commotions occasioned by them, several of the later were slain. The church of Saint John of Jerusalem, which belonged to the knights templars, and stood contiguous to the chapel of Saint Nicholas, was suppressed in 1324. In the same year Sir William Leigh de Burgh died, and was interred in the abbey of Saint Francis, founded by himself. He left seven sons; the eldest of whom, Sir William or Ulick,³⁰ called Ulicus de Anaghkeen, was the first *Mac William Eighter*. He had a son named Rickard (from whom the name Clan-Rickard originated), whose three sons, Sir William or Ulick, (the progenitor of the earls of Clanricarde,) Thomas and John,³¹ were founders of several branches of this powerful and widely extended family.

William, the third Earl of Ulster, survived his grandfather Richard but seven years. He was basely assassinated by his own attendants, at his castle of Carrickfergus in 1333, leaving an only daughter, Elizabeth, to inherit his vast possessions.³² This circumstance occasioned a revolution, memor-

³⁰ This christian name, which at first was peculiar to this family, but which was afterwards used by several others in the province, originated according to the author of *Hibernia Dominicana* as follows: "Eum" (i.e. Gulielmum de Anaghkeen,) vocabant Hiberni "Uliog" nomine scilicet composito ex vocalis "Uliam" et "Oge," significantibus Gulielmum juvenem seu juniorem, per syncopen autem "Wulog," aut "Ulog" apud Hibernos, et Ulick vel Ulie apud Anglos."—*Hib. Dom.*

³¹ This John, according to the same author, was founder of the respectable family of the name of Galway in Munster. He says, that John De Burgo, sometime after the year 1400, in which year he was chief magistrate in Galway went to reside in Munster, where he was called John Galway, as coming from thence, by which name his descendants are called to this day. This statement, however, requires examination before it can be entirely admitted; for in a close roll, 18 Rich. II. preserved in the Chief Remembrancer's Office, Dublin, there is an entry concerning "Johannes Galwey Civis Civitatis Waterford," which proves that the name existed there before the alleged removal of John de Burgo. It may, no doubt, be objected, that this was the same person; but even if so, the author is still wrong as to the time of his emigration. The name, however, occurs much earlier; for in the Bodleian library at Oxford, S. 5, there is preserved an original mandate from Henry III. to put Alen de Galwey into possession of the isle of Rathlines and other lands in Ireland; and in an inquisition taken in Dublin, in 1259, (found by the author amongst several ancient documents relating to the old Abbey of St. Thomas the martyr, near that city, and now in possession of the Earl of Meath,) one of the jurors is named Henricus Galvy: and again in the account of John de

Slane Richard de Lyt, John le Boher and Henry de Bermingham, Sheriffs of Connaught from 1292 to 1299, contained on the great Roll of the Pipe No. 26, preserved in Bermingham Tower, there occurs the name Petrus de Galvy. All which circumstances shew how cautiously assertions, unsupported by authentic documents, ought to be received.

³² By inquisition post mortem, taken after his death at Clare, before John Moris, Escheator, on the 8th December. 7 Edw. III. he was found to possess one half of the burgage of Galway, "cum dimidio in buragio del Galliv," which the burgeses there hold in free burgage in fee. Also a stone house which used to be set for 3l. 6s. 8d. a year, but which then produced nothing, having fallen to the ground; another house which the earl bought from William Mareschall, value 2s. yearly, and the pleas and perquisites of the hundred court, which were worth yearly 5l.—*Inq. in Tur. Lond.*

By a similar inquisition, taken about the same time at Athenry, the earl was found to have held of the king, in capite, amongst others, the lands, tenements and rents following, in Connaught, viz. In the cantred of Owll-Botiller; part of the manor of Loghrye, 10l. yearly from John le Botiller; in the same 10l. 13s. 4d. for four town lands held by John de Burgo; 10l. 13s. 4d. for the like held by O'Nayl; 16l. 13s. 4d. for seven town lands which Robert Lawless held there; 2l. 13s. 4d. for one town land in Moyntaghin which William de Burgo held; and 2l. 10s. arising out of Knapaugh; 13l. 6s. 8d. out of the cantreds of Buk and Clew, held in freehold by the heirs of William Baret; 13s. 4d. out of one townland in Irtloghton, but then producing nothing, in consequence of the war in those parts; 22s. out of one townland in Cabragh and Raytrayny; 11s. 8d. out of Corbeggan one

able, not only as it related to this family in particular, but also as it concerned our town and the entire province. The De Burgos, though hitherto generally steadfast in their allegiance to the crown of England, while the heads of the name frequently filled the highest offices of the state, were henceforth, for a period of nearly three centuries, at continual variance with the government, frequently rising in arms, and openly setting its authority at defiance. Immediately upon the outrageous and premature death of the earl of Ulster, the chiefs of the junior branches of the family, then residing in Connaught, and principally in the extensive districts comprehending the present counties of Galway and Mayo, dreading that all his possessions would fall into the hands of some stranger, through a marriage with the heiress, took advantage of the favourable opportunity that offered for seizing on his estates. Accordingly, Sir William or Ulick, before alluded to, and Sir Edmund *Albanach*, or *the Scot*, (ancestor of the earls of Mayo,)

quarter; 18s. 4d. out of Lisfarewell one quarter; 11s. 8d. out of Cathyrbolan one quarter; 2s. out of Inchawyn by Richard Baret; 12d. out of Row; and 2s. out of a small portion of land held there by Geoffry Martyn; and in Rathberk divers tenements which yield yearly, for suit to the lord's mill, six crannacks of oats, worth yearly 40s.; 13l. 6s. 8d. yearly out of the cantred of Tyrlaunlyf; 26s. 8d. out of one town land in Costeldungv then producing nothing, on account of the war there; 100s. out of one townland in Carne, and the pleas and perquisites of the court there, worth yearly 4s.; 13l. 6s. 8d. yearly out of the cantred of Orruz, which John de Exon holds in-fee; 13l. 6s. 8d. yearly out of the cantred of Tyremoy, and 40s. out of three town lands in Duncoghy; 13l. 6s. 8d. yearly out of the cantred of Con-nordonmor, and 4l. 10s. out of three town lands in Leygliull but nothing then received thereout, on account of the war there. That there was at Tobberbride one old castle, (inclosed with a stone wall,) of great utility towards preserving the peace in those parts, if properly kept up, but that it stood much in want of repair; in the same place two carucates, and sixty acres of land, each carucate containing 120 acres, but now producing nothing, because they lie uncultivated for want of tenants, occasioned by the war there; also 12 acres of pasture, worth yearly 12s. one pasturage worth 13s. 4d. a wood pasturage in Rathfarnan worth 26s. 8d. and another pasturage worth 10s.; a water mill at Rathfarnan worth 46s. 8d. 20s. annual rent arising out of the prisage of ale; a water-mill at Tobberbride worth 56s. 8d. and 26s. 8d. out of the prisage of ale there; 14l. out of one town land in Ballymakegan, and three town lands in Dyrydunns which McCortan held at will; the pleas and perquisites of the hundred court of Tobberbride, 40s. yearly out of one town land in Ourran, which David de Burgo held; 12l. 13s. 4d. out of five town

lands in the burgages of Rathfarnan; 20l. out of ten town lands at Tobberbride, 20l. out of the cantreds of Sloeslow, but that the entire country was burned and destroyed by the Irish; 56s. 8d. yearly out of one Theod in Arkagh, and 56s. 8d. out of one Theod in Kerymeyng and Keryloghnayra, all which were unproductive in consequence of the war aforesaid: 13s. 6s. 8d. yearly rent arising out of the serjeantcy of Connaught, but now only 6l. 3s. 4d. on account of the war, and the poverty of the tenants of those parts. That the pleas and perquisites of the great court of Connaught were worth nearly 500 marks, but that no more could be received than 100l. for the cause aforesaid. That the Earl held his demesne, as of fee 71 acres of land of the see of Clonfert, at the yearly rent of 37s. 6d. but then worth nothing from the poverty of the tenants. That he also held, under the same services as all his other lands, the manors of Sligagh, Corne, Lunc and Carbry, in Connaught, which had been worth 333l. 6s. 8d. yearly, but which were then unproductive on account of the war there between the English and Irish. That there is one church taxed to six mares, and another at Owill taxed to the same, the advowson and presentation of both of which belong to the Earl and his heirs; and another church at Archdrahyn, taxed to six mares, the advowson and presentation of which belonged to the Earl, and the heirs of Richard de Clare, alternately. That there are divers other lands, as well in Connaught and Ulster as in other parts of Ireland, which are situated in the Irish parts, so that no person could come near the same, or receive any profit thereout; because the Irish, in those places, would not permit any of the king's ministers or any Englishman there. It was finally found that Elizabeth de Burgo, aged one year and an half or thereabouts, was the daughter of the said Earl, and his next heir.—Inq. in eod.

being the two most powerful of the family, entered into a confederacy, declared themselves independent, and then took possession of the entire territory; on the division of which the town of Galway, with the country to the Shannon, fell to the lot of Sir William. Aware, however, that by the course of the laws of England they would be deprived of their illegal acquisitions, they at once shook off obedience to those laws, renounced their allegiance to the crown, and came to a determination of protecting their newly acquired possessions, if necessary, by force. Their next care was to conciliate the natives in their favour; to effect which, they discontinued the use of the English language, threw off their English dress, and adopted both the language and apparel of the Irish. They next changed their names: Sir William adopted the title of *Mac William Eighter*, and Sir Edmund that of *Mac William Oughter*: they then embraced the Irish laws, transmitted their possessions in the course of tanistry and gavelkind; and Mac William Eighter, having taken possession of Galway, thenceforward took the title of lord of the town.

That so daring and successful an encroachment upon hereditary right should be permitted by the government, would appear unaccountable, were it not known to have been, at the time, too deeply embroiled with the native Irish: and perhaps, as the possessors were of English descent, it was the less inclined to proceed with rigour against them; and might have also been influenced by an apprehension, similar to that which at first agitated the De Burgos, that, by marriage of the heiress,³³ the property might fall into more dangerous hands. This, however, was not the case, for she afterwards intermarried with Lionel, duke of Clarence, third son of Edw. III. who, in her right, became early of Ulster; and from her descended Edward, the fourth of that name, afterwards king of England.³⁴ Lionel, in right of his wife, laid claim to the usurped possessions of the Du Burgos, and amongst the rest to Galway;³⁵ but his claims, however founded in justice and right, were unattended to, or ineffectual: either from the policy

³³ By inquisition post mortem, taken in 1342, on the death of her mother Matilda, Countess of Ulster, widow of the late Earl, the town of Galway, "Burgus Galvy, Connacnamara cantred, and Loughrye maner," were found to belong to her.—Inq. in Tur. Lond.

³⁴ The only issue of this marriage was a daughter, Philipa, who was married, in 1368, to Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, Baron of Wigmore and Marshal of England, by descent, and Baron of Clare, Trim and Connaught, and Earl of Ulster in right of his wife; all which descended to his son Roger, and his grandson Edmund, until the right merged in the crown of England, in the person of Edw. IV. The arms of Galway, which were adopted about this time, were composed of the armorial ensigns of the Earls of March and Ulster. They were quarterly of four: in the first and fourth for Mor-

timer, barry of six, or and azure, on a chief of the first, three pallets between two esquires dexter and sinister of the second, over all an inescutcheon, argent; and in the second and third for De Burgo, or a cross gules.—These arms continued to be occasionally used in the official proceeding of the corporation of Galway, even so late as the last century.

³⁵ By inquisition post mortem, taken at Dublin after his death in 1369, the manor of Galwy was found, amongst others, to have belonged to him in right of his wife. "Lyonellus Dux Clarencie, tenuit de domino Rege, in capite, die quo obiit, et de jure Elizabethæ uxoris sue, filie Wilhelmi Comitiss Ultonie, maneria de Loughrea, Tobberbride, Tyloghoban, Loughmasque, Sligoe, Galvy et Portdemnie, que valent 200l. per annum."—Inq. in Turre Lond.

of government, not wishing to embroil the country in his cause; or, as is much more likely, from the turbulent state of the times.

The De Burgos, for some time after their revolt, retained possession of Galway, but it soon afterwards returned to its allegiance. During the troubles which took place, its improvement appears not to have been unattended to. In the year 1342 the great west bridge was built, under the direction of Edmond Lynch Fitz-Thomas, who was commonly called *Emon-a-Tuane*, from the great quantity of foreign wines which he annually imported. The trade and revenues of the town, however, were considerably diminished, for on 3d December, 1346, a commission³⁶ was issued by the treasurer of Ireland, to Walter Blake, for the custody of the great custom of Galway and elsewhere in Connaught, he paying into the Exchequer, for the entire, only 22l. yearly; and the sheriff of Connaught was commanded that taking from him sufficient security, and the usual oaths that he would faithfully serve the king, he should deliver to him the letters patent: and John Lawless, son of John of Portraghery, late keeper of the customs, was ordered to deliver him the seal of office. This depression of trade was of short duration, for in the year 1361, soon after the accession of Edw. IV. the countess of Ulster applied to the king on behalf of the town, and obtained a murage charter for the purpose of effectually inclosing it with walls. The subjoined extract from this instrument will give the reader a view of the several articles of traffic and commerce, which in these times were prevalent in this part of Ireland.³⁷ The beneficial effects of

³⁶ Rot. Mem. 19 Edw. III.

³⁷ The original charter, from which the following extract is translated, remains on record in the tower of London.—The king to the baliffs and good men of Galvy in Ireland greeting.—At the request of our beloved daughter Elizabeth Countess of Ulster, we have granted to you, in aid of the inclosing the said town, that for five years next following, you may take for saleable commodities, coming to the town aforesaid, the following customs, viz.

For every crannock, of whatsoever kind of corn, malt, meal, and salt, for sale, one penny. For every crannock of wayde for sale, two pence. For every crannock of corker and symack for sale, one penny. For every crannock of bark for sale, one halfpenny. For twelve crannocks of every kind of coals for sale, one penny. For twelve crannocks of lime for sale, one halfpenny. For every horse, mare, hobby, ox or cow for sale, one halfpenny. For ten sheep, goats or pigs for sale, one penny. For five bacon hogs for sale, one halfpenny. For ten woollfells for sale, one halfpenny. For every hide of horse or mare, hobby, ox and cow, fresh, salt or tanned for sale, one farthing. For every one hundred lambskins, goatskins, wolfskins, catskins, and squirrelskins for sale, one halfpenny. For every one hundred lambskins, hides of stags,

hinds, bucks and odes for sale, one penny. For two hand mill-stones for sale, one farthing. For every large sack of wool for sale, four pence. For every measure of herrings for sale, one farthing. For twenty large fish in ship or boat for sale, one penny. For every horseload of sea fish for sale, one penny. For every man's load of sea fish for sale, one farthing. For every hundred of large fresh-water eels for sale, one penny. For every salmon for sale, one farthing. For every lamprey for sale, one farthing. For every tun of wine and ashes for sale, four pence. For every tun of honey for sale, four pence. For every horse-load of honey for sale, one penny. For every horse-load of ashes for sale, one penny. For every horse-load of cloth for sale, one halfpenny. For every entire cloth of assize for sale, one penny. For twenty ells of Irish cloth, sale-wyche and worstede for sale, one penny. For twenty ells of English or foreign linen cloth for sale, one penny. For twenty ells of canvas for sale, one halfpenny. For every carpet or Chaloun farthing. For ten felt caps for sale, one farthing. For every cloth of silk or baudekin for sale, one halfpenny. For every Irish cloak for sale, one farthing. For every ship coming to the aforesaid town, laden with saleable commodities, three pence. For every horse-load of cloth for sale, one halfpenny. For

the charter, and the subsequent encouragements which were given to trade, were so great, that even so early as 1375, the town was esteemed of sufficient importance to have the king's staple established in it, for the sale of wool, sheepskins or woollfells, and leather. Before this time the staple for the sale of these commodities was confined to two places in Ireland, viz. Cork and Drogheda; a circumstance which was found, by experience, to have been attended with most serious evils, exposing to continual danger the lives of those who were obliged to sail from other parts of the kingdom to pay their duties at these ports, and which, being frequently evaded, occasioned considerable loss to the public revenue. In order, therefore, to obviate these inconveniencies, and also, as the charter expresses it, "for the relief of the burgesses and merchants of the town of Galvy, and that they and the other merchants of Connaught might no longer incur the dangers of shipwrecks, and other losses as they had theretofore suffered, by going towards the city of Cork to pay their customs," the staple was extended to Galway.³⁸

The revenues of Ireland were so reduced at this period, that the king (Edw. III.) found it necessary to send an agent (Sir Nicholas Dagworth,) from England, to ascertain and report the real causes of these distresses. One of the consequences of his mission appears to have been the removal of the staple so lately established in Galway, for the charter was soon after revoked by letters patent under the great seal of England; and by writ of the lord justice of Ireland, dated 13th May 1377,³⁹ the sovereign, provost.

every bundle of iron for sale, one halfpenny. For one hundred gads of steel for sale, one halfpenny. For one hundred large boards for sale, one penny. For every thousand large sandals for sale, one penny. For every thousand small sandals for sale, one halfpenny. For one hundred large boards for sale, one farthing. For one hundred pounds of pitch and rosin for sale, one halfpenny. For every stone of tallow, grease, butter and cheese for sale, one halfpenny. For two thousand onions for sale, one farthing. For eight shanes of garlie for sale, one farthing. For every boat laden with brush-wood for sale, one penny. For every boat laden with timber for sale, one penny. For every thousand nails for sale, one farthing. For every one hundred horse-shoes and clout-nails for carts for sale, one halfpenny. For every thousand dishes and wooden platers for sale, one halfpenny. For twelve ropes for tackling for ships for sale, one farthing. For every thousand hinges for sale, one farthing. For every dozen of Cordewane [] for sale, one halfpenny. For every one hundred of tin, brass and copper for sale, two pence. For every one hundred of scalpyn and dried fish for sale, one penny. For ten stone of hemp and flax for sale, one farthing. For ten gallons of lamp oil for sale, one halfpenny. For ten gallons of olive oil for ointment for sale, one penny. For every

hundred of coloured glass for sale, one penny. For every hundred of white glass for sale, one halipenny. For every hundred of averdupois for sale, one penny. For every other article exceeding the value of five shillings, not herein specified, coming to the aforesaid town, one farthing.—By the Regent himself.—Pat. 54 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 20.

This murage charter was afterwards renewed, and on 20th October, 1374, a writ issued to the sheriff of Connaught, to distrain the provost and bailiffs of Galvy, by all their lands and chattels, until they should render an account of the murage and pavage by them levied and renewed, of all saleable commodities coming to the town.—Rot. Mem. 48 Edw. III.

³⁸ Stephen de Valle, Bishop of Meath, was thereupon appointed collector of the great and small customs in the port, paying into the Exchequer 40 marks yearly; and the king's seal called the cocket was to remain in his custody.—Rot. Pat. 49 Edw. III. On the same day Nicholas Calf, one of the burgesses of the town, was constituted his deputy; and on the 12th May, same year, Stephen Penrys, another burgess, was appointed comptroller; and it was ordered that one part of the seal, called the cockett, should remain in his custody.—Rot. Mem. Seac. 49 Edw. III.

³⁹ Rot. Pat. 51 Edw. III.

burgesses and merchants of the town, were enjoined, that on market days, when the greater part of the people were assembled within the town, they should cause proclamation to be made that all merchants, who had theretofore paid their customs at Galway, should thenceforth pay them at the city of Cork.⁴⁰ This measure, however it originated, appears to have materially injured the trade of this part of the kingdom; and affords another proof of the impolicy of the general system with which Edward III. conducted the affairs of Ireland.

A few pages back, the readers was presented with a comparative view of the customs paid in Limerick and Galway, for several years previous to 1300; which proved the great superiority of the trade of Galway. This superiority was preserved for several centuries by our merchants, and was a continual source of jealousy to their southern neighbours. In the year 1377, David Botiller, one of the citizens of Limerick, complained to the lord justice against the provosts and bailiffs of Galway and Athenry, stating, that notwithstanding, amongst other charter liberties granted to that city, it was particularly provided that the citizens and their successors should, for ever, be free of all customs for their goods and merchandizes in any place either in England or Ireland, where they should bring them for sale; yet those magistrates, from time to time, exacted divers heavy customs from him and his merchants, who frequently came with goods and merchandize for sale to the said towns. They were commanded by letters of the lord justice, dated at Tristledermot, 18th May, 1377,¹ to desist, under heavy penalties, from making those exactions in the future; and thus was thrown open to the inhabitants of Limerick a freedom of trade in the port of Galway, which those of the latter were not entitled to in that city. The mercantile jealousies, above alluded to, occasioned several contentions between those rival communities, which, in another place, there will be occasion to mention.

About this time Thomas Alwyne was seneschal and receiver of the town: he was succeeded, on 4th July, 1385, by Thomas O'Casy, who, in addition to those offices, was also appointed receiver of all the king's lordships in Connaught; was invested with power to hold the king's courts, appoint officers and sub-receivers, levy the king's rents and the issues of his lordships, constitute portrieves and other officers, and receive their oaths; superintend and collect all the fishings and other profits, and set them to

⁴⁰ The following is one of the many instances which occurred, of the general inconvenience occasioned by the removal of the staple.—Thomas Lynche, John Athie, William Botiller, William Webbe and Edmund Blake, of Galvy, merchants, and John Rede, Henry Heryng and John O'Morkowe, merchants of Athenry, having freighted a ship of Lubyk in Spain, with 53 lasts, and 18 daces (180,) and 7 hides in the port of Galway, she began her voyage on St. Laurence's day, 1413, for Kynsale, there to pay the custom due for the said hides, because the king had then no

collectors of his customs at Galway; but being driven by a storm from the Irish coast, to the port of Schuse in Flanders, after her return, they deposited the custom (which the storm had prevented them from paying at Kynsale, as was intended,) in the hands of the said Thomas Lynche; the king, upon their petition, pardoned the contempt of carrying the hides out of Ireland, without having first paid the duty, 24th July, 1415.—Rot. Pat. 3 Hen. V.

¹ Rot. Pat. 1 Rich. II.

farm yearly for the king's benefit; take the accompts, upon oath, of master Thomas Alwyne, the late officer, and receiver, and return the same into Chancery; and, finally, to collect all debts due to the king, and return accounts thereof into the Exchequer. For the better execution of all these extensive trusts he was invested with ample powers of distress and imprisonment.² The many important duties which appear to have been thus concentrated in one person, were soon afterwards divided amongst several; and those which related to the town devolved principally on its chief magistrates, by the force of subsequent grants and charters from the crown.

Sir William De Burgh, who was the then *Mac William Eighter*, and consequently lord of Galway, having, after repeated provocations, revolted against the weak and vacillating government of the day, once more involved the town in those rebellious proceedings. Amongst the plea rolls preserved in Bermingham tower,³ there is still extant the record of a pardon, pleaded by one Henry Blake against an indictment for high treason, for joining Sir William on that occasion. This process was held before Milo, bishop of Cloyne, and Thomas Hill, justices in the Connaught Districts, at the town of Robe, (now Ballinrobe,) on the Wednesday next after the festival of Saint Barnaby the Apostle, 1390, when it was presented, that Henry Blake of Galvy, with other burgesses of the town, and also all the commonalty, by common agreement, in Nov. 1388, rang the common bell, and paid the fealty, which they owed the king, unto William, son of Richard de Burgo, the king's enemy; who, in the name of dominion, received from them the said fealty, fishing weirs, fisheries, mills, rents, services, and all other emoluments in the said town belonging to the king: and that they aided the said William to resist the king and his ministers, and afterwards rang the common bell, and delivered to him all the keys of the gates of the town, to resist and prevent the entrance of the king and his ministers. Sir William De Burgh having afterwards submitted⁴ and obtained pardon, the town returned to its allegiance, and peace and tranquillity were once more restored.

From this period Galway continued gradually to increase. Its situation, trade, and rising population, soon attracted the attention of government; and it was at length resolved to give the town every encouragement, and render it a place of permanent defence and security. Accordingly on 8th Nov. 1396, a new and perpetual murage charter was granted to the inhabitants by Richard the Second.⁵ The preamble to this grant states, that the king, as well in aid of the town of Galvy, (which is described as being

² Rot. Pat. 9 Rich. II.—On 24th April, 1386, Geoffrey Blake, Stephen Dyvelyn and William Seman were appointed supervisors, keepers and receivers of the new cocket, in the town.—Rot. Pat. 10 Rich. II.

³ No. 239, 18 Rich. II.

⁴ It is stated in the *Hibernia Dominicana* that he was appointed deputy of Connaught on 8th December, 1388 though he was in that year declared the king's enemy, as appears by the above recited

record.
⁵ Neither this, nor the succeeding charter of Rich. II. immediately after mentioned, are extant on record in Ireland; the close and patent rolls of the 19th and 20th years of his reign being lost: nor could they be found in the tower of London, though diligent search was made for them. The oldest inspeimus, in which they are recited, is that in the charter of Edward IV. which is inrolled in the tower.—Rot. Pat. 4 Edw. IV.

situate in the marches, between divers his enemies and rebels, as well as English as Irish, and by their daily incursions very much impoverished,) and, for the preservation of his faithful people therein, to be inclosed with a stone wall, as of the parts adjacent and in aid of the paving of the town, granted to the provost, bailiffs and commonality, and their succesors, that, for all saleable things coming to the town by land or water, or passing from the same, they might take the several customs and tolls therein specified: and he commanded that they should cause the same, from day to day, to be levied, collected, received and had. Provided always, that the produce thereof should be faithfully expended towards the walling and the paving of the town. The various commodities comprised in this charter prove the foreign and inland trade of the town, at this period, to have been very considerable; and, by comparing them with the articles contained in the charter of 1361, commerce will be found to have increased very considerably between both periods.

Previously to this grant the town was a corporation, by what the law terms prescription, and was governed by magistrates appointed by the family of De Burgo, or by those deriving under them. But provision being now made for perpetual defence and security, it was deemed necessary, for its greater encouragement and future preservation, to establish a corporate body, by royal grant, and to bestow upon it such privileges and immunities as other chartered towns in Ireland enjoyed. The king accordingly granted a second charter, dated 26th January, 1396, the recitals of which give rather a melancholy description of the then exposed and defenceless state of the town; but it is such an account, however, as reflects considerable credit on its inhabitants. It states that the town was the key of those parts of the king's land in Ireland, in which all his faithful and liege people, as well strangers and others resorting thereto, were received, protected, comforted and relieved; but that it was then daily encompassed on all sides, as well by Irish enemies as English rebels, so that the burgesses and others, residing in and resorting to the same, dared not, without a considerable guard, either by land or water, come to the town, or go out of it, for the purpose of traffic and transacting their necessary business: and that the burgesses, for the safe custody of the town against the malice of the said enemies and rebels, continually, day and night, provided and maintained divers men at arms, at their own charges, to the evident impoverishment of their estate. The king, therefore, towards the relief and encouragement of the town, and that merchants and others might be more induced and encouraged to reside and dwell in it, for the better resisting the said enemies and rebels, granted and gave license to the provost and burgesses, their heirs and successors for ever, yearly to elect amongst themselves a sovereign; and he also granted that no merchants or other persons whomsoever, stranger or native, of whatever state or condition he might be, who should not be continually resident in the town, and sworn a burgess, should buy or sell any merchandize or victuals within the town, except by wholesale or in gross: and further granted, that they might thenceforth for ever enjoy all the privileges used and enjoyed by the town of Drogheda; saving to the

lord of the town and his heirs, the rents, services, fines, amerciaments, issues and profits to him and them, from the town and the courts thereof, belonging, and as they and their ancestors, lords of the town, were accustomed to receive. Such were the leading municipal regulations which were made at this period, and the beneficial effects of which the town soon afterwards began to experience. The privileges granted, though not particularly expressed, were very extensive, as appears by inspection of the ancient charters of Drogheda; and the progress of the town must, at the time, have been very considerable, when, in its first charter of incorporation, it obtained all the privileges enjoyed by one of the most ancient and respectable corporate towns in the kingdom.

Galway, having thus experienced the royal favour and protection, entirely fulfilled all the expectations of government, and henceforth became the principal support of the English interest in this part of Ireland. From a document, however, found on record in the tower of London, entitled "A license to make war against the Irish enemies," and dated in the year 1400, it would seem as if the town, even after obtaining these charters, had revolted from its allegiance, and again raised the standard of rebellion.⁶ This, however, was not the case, and the instrument alluded to originated as follows. On the defection of Sir William De Burgh and the town in 1388, Nicholas Kent, one of the burgesses, who refused to join them, departed privately for England; and prevailed on some merchants of Bristol, under great promise of plunder, to fit out a predatory expedition against the town and the islands of Arran, which were then in the hands of the common enemy. To sanction, however, a proceeding of that kind by private individuals, the king's licence was necessary; but before this could be obtained, or the other necessary preparations made, the town

⁶The following is an extract of this document translated from the original.—Licence for making war against the Irish enemies.—The King. To all and singular his admirals, mayors &c. in England and Ireland greeting. At the supplication of our beloved John Roderice, William Pounce, Edward White and Phillip Tailleur, of Bristol, and Nicholas Kent, Burgess of Galway in Ireland, and in as much as they have given surety that they would not presume to make war, or afford cause of making war, against any of the faithful Irish, or attempt any thing against the form of the truces entered into between us: we have granted and have given licence to them, that they, with as many men at arms as they shall chuse to have provided at their own expenses, may take their course for, and pass over to our said realm of Ireland, in four ships called the Christopher, the Trusty, the Nicholas and May of Bristol, and there may make war against the rebels and enemies of us, being in the said town of Galway; which in times past was in our liegeance and obedience, until now of late, that by

one Sir William Burgh, Knight, by the assent and treason of certain traitors therein, the said town was taken in war; and also the islands of Arons, which always lie full of gallies to ensnare, capture and plunder our liege English. To the end and effect that if the aforesaid John, William, Edward, Philip and Nicholas, shall be able by force and armed power to obtain and take the town and islands aforesaid, they may have hold and inhabit the same town and islands, taking to their own use and profit all and singular the property of the aforesaid rebels and enemies of us, and all that which they shall be able so to obtain and take, the rights, rents, revenues, services and other monies whatsoever to our royal prerogative there pertaining, always saved unto us; saving also the right of the son and heir of Roger de Mortimer, late Earl of March, deceased, being within age and in our wardship, and [the rights] of all other our liege subjects whomsoever. Westminster the 22nd of May.—By the King himself.—Rot. Pat. I. Hen. IV. 7. m.

returned to its allegiance, and this nefarious project having subsequently fallen to the ground, it enjoyed, from the time of its incorporation, a long and uninterrupted state of peace and tranquility. On 12th March, 1402, Henry IV. granted a charter of confirmation, whereby he accepted, approved and ratified, and to the provost, bailiffs and commonalty, granted and confirmed, the liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, privileges, cognizances, tolls and customs, contained in their former charters. Sir Stephen Lescrop was appointed to the government of the county of Connaught, and receiver of the customs of Galway and Athenry; with all the profits as well of the custom of the cocket, as the little custom within both towns, for one year, reserving the salmon fishery in Galway.⁷ The year following, Sir William de Burgh, John Lyverpull, William Mirreson and John Mirreson, were appointed justices in the lordship and county of Connaught; the town of Galway, which was under the rule of its own Magistracy, only excepted. Sir William was soon afterwards (5th December, 1403), constituted Deputy of Connaught at the fee of 80 marks, with power to grant and receive all the revenues, issues and profits of the Town of Galway, appertaining to the king by reason of the minority of Edmund, son of Roger late earl of March, and also of the great new customs in the port of Galway.⁸

During this century the town extended considerably in trade and population. On 16th May, 1425, William Botiller and John Rede were appointed to inquire of all and singular merchants, as well foreigners as natives, and as well those who came to the ports of the town of Galway and Sligagh, as to all other ports of the county of Connaught, with wine, oil, honey, wool, skins, hides, lead or other articles whatsoever, liable to custom or king's duty, and also of all those who shipped any such merchandizes.⁹ On 20th May, 1427, Sir Ulick de Burgo (son of Sir William,) and his brother received an order for twenty marks and forty pounds out of the customs of the town, which were paid to his brother on 24th October, following, to enable him to reduce the Irish,¹⁰ and on 14th February, 1442, William, son of Sir William Bourke, Knight, was granted 10l. to be paid out of the treasury of Ireland, in consideration of his laudable services in enabling the king's collectors to collect the customs in the port of Galway.¹¹ The records of this period abound with entries, relative to the collection of the revenues of the town, and their application; but as they do not impart any thing otherwise materially interesting, they are, for that reason, and also to avoid prolixity, omitted.

The increase of trade rendered commercial regulations necessary, and

⁷ Rot. Pat. 3 Hen. IV.

⁸ Id. de annis 4 and 5 Hen. IV.

⁹ Rot. Mem. 3 Hen. VI.

¹⁰ Cox.

¹¹ Rot. Pat. 20 Hen. VI.—On 21st April, 1445, Alexander Lynch and Nicholas Skeret, merchants, were appointed collectors of the above customs, in the ports of Sligo and Galway.—Rot. Pat. 23 Hen. VI.—On 22d April, 1450, Con O'Connor prisoner, and delivering him

Den) of Galway, were appointed to the same.—Rot. Mem. 28 Hen. VI. and on 21st April, 1455, James Bodikyn was appointed comptroller of the customs, in the same ports.—Rot. Mem. 33 Hen. VI.—Soon after this period, the prisage of Galway was granted to Edmond Lord Dunboyne, during his life, for signal service against the Irish, and for taking Edmund Lynche and William Allen (or to the lord deputy.—Ware.

several useful mercantile laws were accordingly, from time to time, devised and established. Amongst these, however, some are to be found of a different tendency; and particularly in the year 1460, during the magistracy of William *Dubh* Lynche, then sovereign of the town, it was enacted by the corporation, "that ne merchant, ne maryner, ne shipman, should unlade, ne transport over the seas, unfremens goods, but only fremens, upon paine to lesse the said goods or the just value thereof, and to forfayte 100 shillings; which goods, forfayte, to be divided into three parts, one part to be to the reparations and building of the town walls and works, the second part to the reparations of the church, and the third part to the officers, for the time being." This bye-law, which was evidently intended to support the monopoly of the corporation, however it might serve to benefit that body, and tend to enrich a few individuals, does not seem to have been calculated to advance the general interests of trade: nor could the following enactment, which was framed in the same year, add to the strength or increase the population of the town, viz. "That no dweller should set or sell land or tenement, within the same town of Galway, to no Irishman, without licence from the council for the time being, on payn of forfeiting said lands and tenements, and one hundredth shillings to be divided as above written."¹² These bye-laws, however, were confirmed in several years after, by Pierse Lynche, the first mayor of the town.

Were any further proof requisite to indicate the consequence of the town at this period, that of the establishment of a mint, for the coinage of the king's monies, in a part of the kingdom so distant from the seat of government, would be sufficient. In the year 1461, King Edward IV. by letters patent, dated at Westminster, on the 6th of August, constituted "Germyn Lynch wardeyn and maister worker of our monies and coignes within oure castle of Dyvelin (Dublin), in our land of Ireland, and within the castle of Trim; and also, we have granted and gyve full power and auctorite to the said Germyn, and to his depute, or deputees, duryng his said lyf, to make all oure monies and coignes, and to do all things that shall nede or long thereto, within the town of Galway, within oure said land of Ireland." This patent was confirmed by an act of the succeeding Irish parliament,¹³ in which the impressions, inscriptions, weight and value, of the several coins, in silver, brass and copper, were particularly specified. Not long afterwards it was ordered, that English money should advance a fourth part more in value in Ireland, than it was current for in England; viz. that nine pence English should pass for a shilling in Ireland, a shilling for sixteen pence, &c.¹⁴ which was the first time that any difference was made in the value of money between the two countries.¹⁵ Mr. Simon says, that he never met with any of the coins, struck in Galway, under the foregoing patent.¹⁶

12 Corporation Book. Liber A.
13 Unprinted Statute, Rolls Office.
14 Ware.

15 Cox.
16 Essay on Irish Coins.

This grant was followed by a charter, dated 28th August, 1464, whereby the King, for the better enabling the town more strongly to resist his enemies and rebels, confirmed all the preceding charters, regranted the right to levy the tolls and customs, but to be expended about walling and paving, and not otherwise; and, for the greater security and safeguard of the town, he ordained, that no person, of whatsoever estate, degree or condition he should be, (the lieutenant and chancellor of Ireland wholly excepted,) should in any wise enter the town, unless by the licence, assent and superintendence of the sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty for the time being.¹⁷ This prohibition was the first effectual step taken to get rid of the control and interference of the De Burgos within the town, which was soon afterwards effected.

The annals of Connaught, and those of the four masters, record a terrible conflagration which took place in Galway, on Friday, the 2d day of June, 1473; by which the town was nearly destroyed, and incalculable damage sustained by the inhabitants. This heavy misfortune was, however, soon overcome by the exertions of an industrious and already opulent community. During the long reign of Henry VI. and that of his successor, Edw. IV. several families settled in the town, among whom those of *Deane, Ffont, Ffrench, Morris, Butler, Fallon, Nolan, Port, Coine or Quin, and Tully*, are particularly noticed. At the period to which our narrative is now arrived, it was esteemed one of the most populous towns in Ireland: trade kept pace with the increase of population, and a spirit of industry pervaded the minds of the people; but their energies were now more particularly called forth, by the melancholy accident which had just taken place, and the damages occasioned by the fire were not only quickly repaired, but the town itself was materially improved, and soon after took its rank amongst the most considerable places in the kingdom. The relation of its affairs having been thus far continued through periods of which almost every local record and monument has been long and irrecoverably lost, an era now approaches, from which the memory of its transactions was better preserved; and, consequently, the future helps, for the elucidation of its history, will be found much more abundant and satisfactory, as in the following chapter.

17 Rot. Pat. 4 Edw. IV. p. 11. m. 29. Tur. Lond.

CHAP. IV.

FROM 1484 TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE IRISH REBELLION
IN 1641.

Wardenship of Galway instituted by the archbishop of Tuam, and confirmed by Pope Innocent VIII.—Charter of Richard III.—Remarkable instance of inflexible justice—Fortifications built—Great fire in the town—Battle of Knoc-Tuadh—Hospital built, and several improvements made—Disputes between Galway and Limerick—Prisage of wines claimed—Orders of Henry VIII. to the inhabitants—The lord deputy, Grey, honorably received in the town, and several Irish chiefs come in, and submit—Sir William de Burgh created Earl of Clanrickard, and deprived of all power in Galway—Charter of Henry VIII.—Mercantile bye-laws—Charters of Edward VI.—The earl of Sussex, chief governor, arrives in Galway, and is splendidly received—Sir Henry Sidney, his successor, arrives in town—Insurrection of the Mac-an-Earlas—Their defeat—Charter of Elizabeth—The lord justice, Sir William Pelham, arrives in town, and confirms the charter—Sir John Perrot, lord deputy, comes to Galway—Prisage of wines in the town, established by the earl of Ormond—One of the vessels of the Spanish armada wrecked in the bay—The lord deputy, Sir William Fitzwilliams, arrives in town, puts several of the Spaniards to death—Sir William Russell, lord deputy, arrives and investigates the state of the town and province—The town besieged by Hugh Ruadh O'Donnel—Licentiousness of the inhabitants of the country—The chief governor, lord Mountjoy, visits the town—St. Augustine's fort built—Charter of James I.—The town erected into a separate jurisdiction—The lord deputy, Viscount Falkland, arrives in Galway—His munificence—Fort of Ballymanagh built—Several fortifications erected—Splendid entry into Galway and reception of Viscount Wentworth, lord deputy—His oppressive proceedings against a jury of the county—Concluding observations.

THE town of Galway having considerably increased in wealth and opulence during the last two centuries, (by its constant and gradually extending commerce with the nations of Europe, but particularly with France and Spain, from whence its merchants annually imported vast quantities of wine,) and the principal part of the inhabitants being connected together by the ties of kindred, (which were daily augmenting by frequent intermarriages,) and by the more powerful influence of mutual interest: the great and continual object of their care and solicitude was, to prevent any intercourse with the native Irish, of the surrounding county, from whose vindictive dispositions (according to the accounts of the town) and implacable, though, perhaps, just, and often provoked, resentment, many of the town's people had, from time to time, been deprived of their properties

and their lives.¹⁸ In order effectually to attain this desirable end, and entirely to cut off all communication between the town and the natives of the country, it became necessary to accomplish two points: the first was, to obtain and establish a separate religious jurisdiction within the town, which should be independent of any exterior ecclesiastical power; and, the second, to new model the corporation, and get rid of the interference of the De Burgos, whose authority had now become insupportable to the inhabitants.

Galway anciently belonged to the diocese of Annaghdown, which was united, in 1324, to the arch-diocese of Tuam; and since that union it was governed by vicars, nominated by that See. In the year 1484, the inhabitants prevailed on Donat O'Murray, then archbishop of Tuam, to release the town from his jurisdiction, and to erect the church of St. Nicholas into a collegiate, to be governed by a warden and vicars, who were to be presented and solely elected by the inhabitants of the town.¹⁹ As it was necessary that this act should receive the sanction and confirmation of the Pope, a petition from the parishioners of the town was transmitted to Rome, in which they stated themselves to be "modest and civil people," and represented the inhabitants of the surrounding country as a savage race, brought up in woods and mountains, unpolished and illiterate, by whom they were often disturbed in exercising the divine duties of their religion, according to the English rite and custom; that they were often robbed and murdered by them, and were in continual danger, and likely to suffer many other losses and inconveniences if not speedily succoured, and they therefore prayed that his holiness would be pleased to confirm the institution of the archbishop. This petition was graciously received by the Pope, Innocent VIII., who granted a bull of confirmation, according to the prayer of the petitioners.

About the same time, the inhabitants also solicited Richard III. for a new charter, praying that they might be at liberty to elect thenceforth, for ever, a mayor and bailiffs; that no person whomsoever, not even excepting the King's lieutenant and chancellor, (who alone were then privileged,) should enter the town without a licence; and particularly that the lord Mac William, of Clanrickard, and his heirs, should be for ever deprived of all rule and authority within the town. A new charter was accordingly granted, dated at Westminster, the 15th of December, 1484, whereby the

¹⁸ Such appears to have been the statement of the inhabitants of Galway; but, if the accounts of the accused Irish could now be obtained, it is more than probable that they would be found materially different from those charges of their adversaries. No fact is better authenticated than that, for many centuries anterior and subsequent to this period, the native Irish continued to enact laws in their own districts, to prevent any intercourse whatever with the English settlers; whose "rapacity and want of principle," says the historian, "were so notorious, that

they became proverbial."—O'Halloran.
 Na t'm common pe fear galua: ma
 n' n' f'aroe t'p'it
 Ue'ro co'roce a'p t'ro' ro mbea'ta:
 common an f'p' galua p'io't.
 With one of English race no friendship
 make;
 Shouldst thou, destruction will thee over-
 take;
 He'll lie in wait to ruin thee, when he
 can:
 Such is the friendship of an Englishman,
 19 Appendix, No. I.

king confirmed all former grants, and renewed the powers to levy the tolls and customs, which he directed should be applied towards the murage and pavage of the town: he also granted licence that they might, yearly, for ever, choose one mayor and two bailiffs, and ordained that no person whomsoever should enter the town without licence; and particularly ordained and granted, that from thenceforth neither the lord Mac William, of Clanrickard, nor his heirs, should have any rule or power whatsoever within the town, either to act, exact, ordain or dispose of any thing therein, by land or by water, as he and his predecessors were anciently accustomed to do, without the special license and by the consent and superintendence of the mayor, bailiffs and corporation, to whom he granted plenary power and authority to rule and govern the town.²⁰ The first mayor and bailiffs were accordingly elected under this charter, on the 1st August, 1485, and were sworn into office on the 29th September following, which practice has continued without intermission to the present day.

The bull was soon after received from Rome, and a meeting of the inhabitants was immediately convened in the town-house, where it was publicly read, in the hearing of all the people, on the 3d and 6th days of November, 1485. By this instrument, which is dated the 8th of February, 1484, the pope confirmed and approved of the erection of the church of St. Nicholas into a collegiate, to be governed by a warden and eight vicars, who should be moral, well bred and virtuous men, and who were to follow the English rite and custom, in celebrating the mysteries of religion; and he also granted the right of presentation of the warden and vicars to the chief magistrate or mayor, bailiffs and equals (*pares*) of the town for ever.²¹

These municipal and ecclesiastical grants being obtained, gave general satisfaction to the people, and principally laid the foundation of the future greatness and prosperity of the town, which were also much advanced by the public faith and integrity of its merchants, and by the unsullied honor of the inhabitants, whose strict adherence to truth and love of impartial justice became universally proverbial. But as a single fact, in illustration of this statement, may prove more satisfactory, and have a greater effect than any general description; the reader will find it forcibly displayed in an appalling instance of inflexible virtue which occurred about this period in Galway, and which stands paralleled by very few examples in the history of mankind.

²² James Lynch Fitz-Stephen, an opulent merchant, and one of the

²⁰ This charter of Rich. III. with all preceding grants, is fully recited in that of queen Elizabeth.—Appendix No. III.

²¹ The original bull has been lost many years; but a copy from an ancient transcript is given in the Appendix, No. II.

²² Most of the minor incidents contained in this narrative are the offspring of fancy; but this by no means affects the truth of the principal occurrence. It has been chiefly abstracted from a publication, entitled "George the third," attributed to the classic pen of the reverend Edward Mangin, but has been here extended for the purpose of affording some variety amidst so many uniform details from ancient records.—This, however, the author apprehends may justly be deemed an insufficient reason; but as it is the only similar instance which occurs, he depends solely for indulgence on the kindness of the reader. Other traditionary accounts of this interesting transaction, give a different

principal inhabitants of Galway, was elected mayor in 1493; at which time a regular and friendly intercourse subsisted between the town and several parts of Spain. This mayor, who from his youth had been distinguished for public spirit, had, from commercial motives, on all occasions encouraged an intercourse that proved so lucrative as well as to his town's-men as to the Spaniards; and in order the more firmly to establish the connexion between them, he himself went on a voyage to Spain, and was received, when at Cadiz, at the house of a rich and respectable merchant, of the name of Gomez, with the utmost hospitality, and with every mark of esteem suitable to his high reputation and to the liberality of his entertainer. Upon his departure for his own country, out of a wish to make some grateful return for the numerous civilities he had received from the Spaniard, he requested of him, as a particular favor, to allow his son, a youth of nineteen, to accompany him to Ireland, promising to take parental care of him during his stay, and to provide for his being safely restored to his friends whenever he desired to return. Young Gomez, who was the pride of his parents and relations, was rejoiced at this agreeable opportunity of seeing the world; and the merchant's request was gratefully complied with by his father. They embarked accordingly, and, after an easy passage, arrived in the bay of Galway. Lynch introduced the young stranger to his

description of the nature and origin of the crime committed, which it may not be uninteresting briefly to bring to notice. According to these accounts, young Lynch, the guiltily and unfortunate cause of this melancholy tragedy, was sent on a voyage to Spain, as captain of one of his father's ships, for a cargo of wine; and, having squandered or secreted part of the money with which he was entrusted, he availed himself of his father's credit, to cover and for a time to conceal the deficiency. The Spanish merchant who supplied him on the occasion, sent his nephew with him to Ireland, to receive the debt, and to establish a further correspondence. The ship proceeded on her voyage; and, as every day must bring them nearer the place of destination, and discover the fraud intended by Lynch, he conceived the diabolical resolution of destroying his friend; and, having brought the major part of the crew over to his purpose, by promises of reward, and the rest by fear, on the night of the fifteenth day, the unfortunate Spaniard was violently seized in his bed, and thrown over board. A few days more brought them to port. His father and friends received him with joy, and, in a short time, bestowed a sufficient capital to set him up in business. Security had lulled every sense of danger; and he proposed for a beautiful girl, the daughter of a neighbour, in marriage. His terms were accepted, and the day appointed which was to crown his yet successful villainy; when one of the sailors, who had been with him on the voyage,

was taken ill and finding himself on the point of death, he sent for the father, and communicated a full relation of the horrid deed his son had committed on the seas: thus far these accounts vary; but in every other circumstance they perfectly agree. It must, however, be stated that the truth of the entire occurrence has been doubted.

Archbishop King's collections, in possession of the Dublin Society, vol. I. p. 313, contain the following entry of a horrid murder committed in Galway, apparently taken from the records of the Franciscan abbey there:—"Horrendum homicidium accidit in villa Galwey, 20^o. aug. ubi quidam fur, Johannes, media nocte, occidit avunculi sui, Gulielmi reogh pistoris, uxorem et filium et nepotem, puerulum 12 annorum, cum securi, quos in hortum nostrum, qui contiguus fuit, projecit. A^o. 1625."—It has been suggested to the author, that the monument said to have been erected in 1624, to perpetuate Lynch's crime and punishment, (vide the miscellaneous plate,) possibly related to the latter circumstance, which, though entered under the year 1625, might have occurred the year preceding. This, however, is mere supposition.—Few transactions of so old a date stand better authenticated than that concerning young Lynch; for, independently of the general voice of tradition, it appears recorded in several ancient manuscripts, many of which have passed through the hands of the author.

family, by whom he was received with that openness of heart and hospitality which has ever characterized the Irish, under any circumstances: and he also recommended to him, in a particular manner, as a companion to his only son, who was but a year or two older than Gomez, and who was considered one of the finest youths of his time: the beauty of his person, and the winning softness of his manners, rendered him a favorite with the fair sex; he was the idol of the people for his affability and spirit, and respected by all ranks for his abilities. With superior height and dignity of mien, he possessed great muscular strength and intrepid spirit, and uncommon vigour of body and mind. Thus highly gifted by nature, and endowed with every great and good quality of heart, he soon felt the delightful influence of his own attractions, by the general admiration and esteem which they excited in others. But his endowments were not unattended by what is too often seen united with superior qualities, a tendency to the pleasures of libertinism, which greatly afflicted his father, who was himself exemplary for the purity of his life. He, however, now conceived the fullest hope of his reformation, from discovering that he paid honorable addresses to a beautiful and accomplished girl, the daughter of one of his richest and most respectable neighbours; and he found additional satisfaction in procuring for his son the company of one so serious and well brought up as the youthful Gomez, who, he hoped, would assist to draw him entirely from his licentious courses. The year of his return from Spain, this worthy magistrate was more than usually solicitous that nothing should happen to cast a stain upon his house or native town, of which he then was mayor—a rank, in those times, of the greatest importance, and one, on the management of which, more than on that of any other civil employment, the general security depended. The young men lived together in perfect harmony, and frequent entertainments were given at the mayor's house, as well in honour of the stranger, as for the sake of advancing the suit of his son Walter to the beautiful Agnes. At one of those festivals, which, as usual, she adorned with her presence, it happened that her lover either saw, or which, with lovers, is the same, imagined that he saw, the eyes of the lovely maiden beam with rapture on the young Spaniard. Wild with astonishment, the fairy spell was broken; his ardent and unruly passions took fire at the thought, and he seized an opportunity, not of asking his mistress if his suspicions were founded in fancy or reality, but of upbraiding her for her infidelity in terms of haughty anger: she, in her turn, astonished and irritated by such unexpected injustice, and that too from the chosen of her heart, affected disdain to conceal her fondness, and refused to deny the charge. "Love," says some philosopher, who assuredly had felt the passion, "for the most part resembles hatred rather than affection;" and what now passed between these young persons was a confirmation of the truth of that remark. Though mutually enamoured, one obeyed the dictates of jealousy, the other of pride: they parted in violence; and, while the forlorn Agnes may be supposed retiring to weep over her wrongs, her admirer, racked by the fiends and furies that possessed his bosom, withdrew to revolve the direful project of revenge. Accident contributed at once to

strengthen his determination and facilitate his purpose. The following night as he passed slowly and alone by the residence of the fair one, he perceived a man come from the house, and knew him to be Gomez, who had indeed passed the evening there, being invited by the father of Agnes, who spoke the language of Spain with fluency, and courted the society of all who could converse with him. Urged by his rage, the lover pursued his imagined rival, who, being alarmed by a voice which he did not recognize, fled before him. From ignorance of the streets, he directed his steps towards a solitary quarter of the town, close to the shore; but, before he had quite reached the water's edge, his mad and cruel pursuer overtook him, darted a poinard into his heart, and plunged him, bleeding, into the sea.—In the night the tide threw the body of this innocent victim of insanity back upon the beach, where it was found, and soon recognized. The rash and wretched murderer (from himself the particulars were obtained) had scarcely committed the sanguinary deed than he repented it; but fear, or rather that feeling which teaches us to preserve life, even when we no longer love it, caused him to hasten from the scene of his crime, and endeavour to hide himself in the recesses of a wood, at some distance: here he could hide, but alas! not from himself; the shades of the night and the darkness of the forest were unto him as the noon of day. In agonies of despair, he cried aloud, and rolled himself upon the earth; and, when the first streaks of light appeared in the sky, he rose with a settled resolution of expiating his guilt, as far as he could, by surrendering himself to the law, and with that intention was returning to town, when he perceived a crowd of persons approaching, amongst whom, with shame and terror, he beheld his father on horseback, attended by several officers of justice and a military guard. On finding the body of the Spaniard, it was evident that he was killed by a dagger which was found near him, his own being unsheathed by his side, and suspicion had also arisen that the assassin must have retreated towards the wood, as a white hat, ornamented with feathers, had been found, by some fishermen, floating near the shore, as if blown from the road leading in that direction; while the velvet bonnet, which the person slain had worn, lay beside the body. Had the unhappy criminal wished to conceal the fact, his disturbed appearance alone would have betrayed him; but with perfect consistency, though in broken accents, he proclaimed himself the murderer, declared his contrition and remorse for the enormity to which frenzy had impelled him, and, imploring pardon of Heaven, desired to be conducted to prison. His disconsolate parent, oppressed by a weight of amazement and affliction, could scarcely preserve his equanimity, though a man of almost unexampled firmness: he foresaw the dreadful consequences of complying with his frantic son's demand, and that, should he shrink from his duty, public disgrace awaited himself. As mayor, he had the power of life and death, and he remembered that already in the case of another, he had used the authority given him with rigid severity. But, though he perceived that calamity must now overwhelm him and his race, he sacrificed all personal considerations to his love of justice, and ordered the guard to secure their prisoner. The command was reluctantly obeyed;

and the mournful procession moved back to the town, penetrating, with difficulty, the immense crowds of people, who, by this time, curiosity had brought out. A more extraordinary scene has seldom been witnessed: surprise, compassion and horror were discernible in the countenances of all. While some expressed admiration and pity for their upright magistrate, many of the lower classes, feeling commiseration for the fate of their favorite youth, filled the air with lamentations and sighs. The uproar alone would have told the sad intelligence to the merchant's family: but they were doomed to a still greater shock than what general rumour could give; for the strong prison of the town lay immediately next to their own house, and the mother and sister of the wretched Walter were spectators of his approach, bare-headed, pale, bound, and surrounded with spears. Their outcries and faintings added to this most terrific trial of the father's fortitude: but such moments are really the test of virtue; the ordinary adversities of life are insufficient to shew it in its genuine lustre, or prove how potent, how beautiful it is, or, indeed, to convince us, that there exists no force by which true virtue can be subdued. If words are inadequate to describe the great and sudden wretchedness which overspread this, till now happy and honorable, family, they are still less so to picture the despair of the tender and unfortunate Agnes. To return, however: Within the short compass of a few days, a small town in the west of Ireland, with a population, at the time, of little more than three thousand persons, beheld a sight of which but one or two similar examples occur in the entire history of mankind—a father sitting in judgment, like another Lucius Junius Brutus on his only son, and, like him, too, condemning that son to die, as a sacrifice to public justice. The legal inquiry which followed was short; and, on his own confession, strengthened by corresponding circumstances, the young man was fully convicted of the murder, and, in public, received sentence of death from the mouth of his afflicted father, by whom he was remanded back to prison. If the Almighty looks down with pleasure on the virtues of mankind, here was an action worthy of approbation—a father consigning his son to an ignominious death, and tearing away all the bonds of paternal affection, when the laws of nature were violated, and justice demanded the blow. No sooner was his sentence known to the populace, than they surrounded the place of the criminal's confinement: at first they were content with expressing their dissatisfaction by murmurs of regret and expostulations with the guards; but, by degrees, they became tumultuous, and were prevented only by the military force from attacking the prison, and pulling down the magistrate's house; and their disorders were increased by understanding that the prisoner was now desirous of being rescued; which in some measure was true, for, as his madness subsided, his love returned. The thought of for ever parting from the object of his affections was intolerable, and he began to see of what value the gift of existence was, of which his remorseless hand had deprived an unoffending stranger. By strenuous exertions the people were, for the present, dispersed, and hints were often conveyed to them, that mercy would be extended to the prisoner. On his conviction, the mayor was waited upon by persons of

the first rank and influence in town, and solicited to consent to a reprieve : his relations and friends joined in earnest entreaty, beseeching that his blood might not be shed; but the inflexibility of the judge resisted the supplication, and was inexorable. Whatever the inward struggles of the father and the man might have been, the firmness of the patriot was unshaken. He was not to be wrought upon, either by the dread of popular clamour, the odium that it would attach to his name, the prayers and tears of his kneeling family, the undescribable despair of the hapless young lady, or, harder to withstand than all those, the yearnings of a paternal breast : but, with a magnanimity that would have done credit to the sternest hero of Greece or Rome, he himself descended, at night, to the dungeon where his son lay, for the double and direful purpose of announcing to him, that his sentence was to be executed on the following morning, and of watching with him, to prevent the possibility of his escape. One can hardly fancy any thing more appalling than such a vigil as this. He entered, holding a lamp, and accompanied by a priest, (from whom the account was received,) and, locking the gate, kept fast the keys in his hands, and seated himself in a recess of the wall. His son drew near, and, with a faltering tongue, asked if he had any thing to hope; he answered, “ No, my son; your life is forfeited to the laws, and at sun-rise you must die. I have prayed for your prosperity, but that is at an end—with the world you have done for ever—were any other but your wretched father your judge, I might have dropped a tear over my child’s misfortune, and solicited for his life, even though stained with murder—but you must die—these are the last drops which shall quench the sparks of nature—and, if you dare hope, implore that Heaven may not shut the gates of mercy on the destroyer of his fellow-creature. I am now come to join with this good man in petitioning GOD to give you such composure as will enable you to meet your punishment with becoming resignation.” Then, as if fearful of relapsing into his natural softness, and of forgetting the great duty he had imposed upon himself, he requested the priest to proceed : they knelt down, and administered the rites of the church to the unhappy criminal, to fortify him for the approaching catastrophe. The young man’s native spirit seemed gradually to be restored; he joined fervently in prayer; sighed heavily from time to time; but spoke of life and its concerns no more : and thus, with intervals of silence, the woeful night passed over. It was scarcely day, when the expected summons to prepare was given to the guards without. The father rose, and assisted the executioner to remove the irons which still bound his unfortunate son; then, unlocking the door, he ordered him to stand between the priest and himself, and lean upon an arm of each. In this manner they ascended a flight of steps, lined with soldiers, and were passing on to gain the street, where a strong escort had been appointed to receive and go along with them to the usual place of punishment, at the eastern extremity of the town. The concluding scene of the father’s struggles and the son’s misery was, it might be supposed, now very nigh; but a trial more severe yet awaited them, and the unparalleled firmness of the former was to undergo a still further proof. The relations of the

unhappy culprit surrounded the father: they conjured him again, by all the solicitude of nature and compassion, to spare his son. His wretched and disconsolate mother, whose name was Blake, flew in distraction to the heads of her own family, and at length prevailed on them, for the honor of their house, to rescue him, and prevent the ignominy his death must bring on their name. They armed to deliver him from prison. 'Prodigious crowds had gathered, and were loud in their outcries for mercy. threatening instant destruction to the magistrate, if not complied with. In vain did he exhort them to preserve tranquility, and suffer the law to take its course. The soldiers themselves were melted by the circumstances of this most pitiable case, and, no longer able or willing to do their duty, permitted the populace to approach the house, and to continue their well-meant, but unlawful, opposition. To attempt now to pass through them was hopeless: but having withstood their tears and prayers, and the still stronger appeal of his own affections, this virtuous, unhappy, and resolute father determined not to yield from a motive of personal fear, but, by one desperate and incredible effort, to perform the horrid sacrifice which he had vowed to pay on the altar of justice; and, if he fell, to fall as became a man, and not be compelled to prefer the advantage of an individual to the injured rights of his country, and of human nature. It is probable he was prepared for this extremity; for, turning back, and still keeping hold of his son, he mounted by a winding stairs within the building, which led to an arched window that overlooked the street in which the populace was assembled: he there presented himself and his victim, about whose neck he had previously fastened the rope with which he had been bound, and, securing the other end in an iron projecting from the wall, "You have little time to live, my son," said he; "let the care of your soul employ these few moments—take the last embrace of your unhappy father:"—he embraced his unfortunate son, and launched him into eternity! A few moments put an end to his existence. Expecting instant death from the fury of the rabble, this extraordinary man retained his station, satisfied with the silent approval of a good conscience, perfectly regardless of the applause or censure of the multitude, conscious of having fulfilled his duty to GOD, to man, and his country: but this act of greatness awed them; they stood motionless with amazement; a sentiment of admiration and sorrow united alone prevailed; and, when all was over, they slowly and peaceably retired—so wondrous is the influence of an exalted and daring mind, when actuated by the principles of virtue.—The innocent cause of this lamentable tragedy is said to have died of grief, and the father of her lover to have secluded himself from society for the remainder of his days, never having been seen again, except by his mourning family. His house still exists in Lombard-street, which is yet known by the name of "Dead-man's-lane;" and the execution is said to have taken place at a window in the rear of the house; though the vulgar error is, that he was suspended over the front window, which is distinguished by a handsome representation, carved in black marble, of a human skull, with two bones crossed beneath. It is dated 1624; and is supposed to have been put up by some of his family.

as a public memorial of a transaction which succeeding times looked upon with astonishment, and which the production of the arts in this country should perpetuate with statutes. Opinions may, no doubt, be divided as to the cruelty or inhumanity of the father; but few will question the integrity of the judge, or the equity of the sentence; nor can it be any longer surprising, that, after so brilliant an example of justice, united to the general character of the inhabitants, the town attained, as before observed, that degree of universal credit, which it will be found to have done within little more than a century after this period.

The corporate regulations already detailed infused new spirit and vigour among the inhabitants. Several useful and considerable works were now undertaken by the corporation; and, in the mayoralty of Andrew Lynch Fitz-Stephen, in 1498, the important communication from Lough-athalia to Poulavorline, which would have opened an easy passage from Lough-corrib to the sea, (and which is still so desirable,) was commenced, but never completed. The remains of this useful, but neglected, work are yet visible, and are distinguishd by the name of "Lynch's Folly." In the same year the curfew-bell was introduced, and a considerable part of the fortifications from the shoemaker's-tower to the quay was built. These improvements were for a while impeded by an accidental fire which took place in 1500, and consumed a great part of the town. The inhabitants, however, soon repaired these losses, and afterwards, from time to time, beautified the town with several most superb structures, many of which remain entire to this day; bearing dates and inscriptions which generally contain the names of their founders, and denote the particular periods of their erection.

The town had hitherto, for a considerable time, enjoyed the blessings of peace, except the predatory attempts of the Irish may be deemed exceptions; but William de Burgo, O'Brien of Thomond, M'Namara, O'Carroll and other chieftains, having in 1504 risen in arms, they suddenly invested and took possession of the town. Gearld, earl of Kildare, the lord deputy, assisted by O'Neal O'Donnell and others, marched against them with a considerable force: both armies met at the hill of Knoc-tuadh, about seven miles N.W. of Galway; and although the Irish army is stated to have been the most numerous that had assembled since the arrival of the English, it was routed with dreadful slaughter; Mac William and the other leaders were taken prisoners, and the towns of Galway and Athenry surrendered.²³

²³ The annals of the four masters state, (literally, our heroes and the dregs of our people) will then return to us, upon that "The battle of Knoc-tuadh was fought on the 19th of August, 1504. After knowing our standards and colours." That gaining the victory, the lord justice was done by them. On the next day the lord justice and O'Donell went to Galway, where the two sons of Mac William and immediately to Galway: O'Donnell said: 'Many of our people are overpowered and slain, his daughter were made prisoners; after and others of them separated from us; I which the lord justice remained some time therefore think it best to remain this night in the town, cheerfully elate, after the on the field, as a sign of our victory, and fore-mentioned victory.'—Transl. to form our camps; our scattered troops

Peace being thus restored, the inhabitants again resumed their improvements. In 1505 the streets were paved, and Stephen Lynch Fitz-Dominick, the mayor, founded an hospital, in the high street, for the relief of such of the respectable citizens as might happen to be reduced by sickness or other misfortunes: he then drew a deep fosse round the walls on the east, into which a branch of the river was turned that completely insulated the town; and for these public-spirited works the corporation rewarded him with a grant of a considerable portion of the adjacent land. In 1519 the town wall was extended one hundred and twenty feet westward of Michael's tower; part of the quay was also built at the joint expense of the town and government; and the "young men" entered into a military association, and instituted a company amongst themselves, with the approval and sanction of the corporation.

During the greater part of the reign of Henry VIII. the town enjoyed undisturbed repose; trade flourished;²⁴ several useful bye-laws were enacted for the well ordering of the corporation, and many were also made to prevent any intercourse with the native Irish. As these bye-laws and regulations generally exhibit a curious and correct picture of the customs and manners of the town, at the successive periods of their enactment, since the year 1484, many of them will be found in another part of this work.

The city of Limerick, from an early period of our history, was jealous of the growing trade and prosperity of Galway, although the latter long retained its superiority. This jealousy was shown on many occasions, but broke out violently in consequence of a mercantile dispute, which happened some time previously to 1524, between David Comyn, a citizen of Limerick, and some merchants of Galway. Comyn complained that he could have no justice administered to him in Galway; and, waiting for an opportunity, he seized the person of Ambrose Lynch Fitz-James, one of the inhabitants of the town, and kept him close prisoner, until he was ransomed for a large sum of money. In consequence of this outrage, hostilities commenced between the city and the town, and great depredations were committed both by sea and land; until the people of Limerick, weary of the contest, dispatched two of their citizens, Christopher Arthur and Nicholas Arthur, to Galway, to conclude a peace; or, as the record of this transaction expresses it, "to pacyficat and put away all manner adversyte, rancour, and inconvenyens that have rysen or insurged between the city and town habitantes of the same." Upon their arrival, the mayor, bailiffs and commonalty assembled in the town house, and with one assent selected Walter and Anthony Lynch Fitz-Thomas, to conclude "a perpetual

²⁴ A.D. 1525, the King granted to Robert Cowley, of Dublin, merchant, the lastage of hides, commonly called the fees of the town of Galway; being two shillings sterling money for every last (twelve dozen) of hides, in every ship within the port of Galway, and the bays and creeks thereof, for a term of 30 years, thereto-

fore held by Stephen Lynch Fitz-Dominick.—Fiant 17 Hen. VIII.—Stephen Fitz-Arthur Lynch was appointed receiver of the cocket duties with the ancient fees, as T. Kirwan or any other held them.—Rot. Pat. 27, 30 Hen. VIII.—And John Goldsmith was appointed searcher of the port.—Id. 33.

peace and concorde" with the deputies of Limerick. The terms being agreed upon, a public meeting was convened on the 7th of May, 1524, and the subjoined curious articles²⁵ were signed and ratified on both sides, and apparently to the mutual satisfaction of all parties: but as treaties are

25 In the name of Gode, Amen. This endentur made the seventh daye of Maye, the xvi yeare of the reigne of Kinge Henrye the eight, and of our Lorde 1524, in the courte house of Galweye, before Stephyne Lynche Fitz-Domynnycke, then beinge mayor, John Fallon and John French, baylyffes, with theyr coburgens theyr-resembled; betwexte the city of Lymeryk of that one partye, and the towne of Galweye of that other partye, Wytnnessthe, that Chrystofor Artur and Nich' Artur came and appeyred in the same corte-house, and theyr shewed a letter of power and auctoryte, of the said cyty, and cytyzens of the same, for to pacyficat and put awaye all manner adversyte, rancor and inconvenyens, that have rysen or insurged betwexte the said cytye and the towne of Galway, and betwexte the cytezens and habitauntis of the cyty of Lymeryk, and betwexte the conburgens of Galweye and habitantes of the same: and specialllye, as touchinge the matter dependenge betwexte David Comen, of Lymeryke, cytezen, and the towne of Galweye, for certeyne travers mattyer towchinge a bargayne of salte, the which bargayne David Comen alleginge for hym that he cowde have no ryght ministreth to hym in the said towne of Galweye. Wherefore the said David attached, rested and rainesomed one named Ambrose Lynche Fitz-James, merchante, of the said towne of Gallweye, for the which tachein and rainsomyng, arose and insurgede gerate inconvenyencys betwexte the said cytye and the town of Gallweye. Whearfore, in consideration, and augmentacon, and fortyfyng traunquylytye, and of reaste and peace, and concordable amytye and friendship, betwexte the said cytye and the town of Gallweye, the said mayr, ballyves, conburgens and comers of Gallweye in the said courte house, with one assente elected and chosed Walter and Anthonye Lynche Fitz-Thomas, arbytratours to be assocyate with the said Chrystofor and Nich' Arthure, yn the towne of Galweye, ys behalfe, to the augmentacon, pacificacon of a perpetuall peace and concorde betwexte the cytye of Lymeryk, for the said matter, and the towne of Galweye.

Then the said arbytrators, Chrystofor, Nich' Walter and Anthonye, so chosen and elected, betwexte the said cytye and towne, have for the universal welte, and augmentacon of charity and amytye betwexte the said cytye and towne, concorded, appointed, affirmed, and concluded peace betwexte the said cytye of Lymeryk and Gallweye, betwexte the cytyzens and

conburgens of both for eever; so that this accordemente and fynal peace maye never be separate, be none inconvenyence, rancor ne dyscorde.

Item, we the foresaid arbitrators, have concorded, for the more affirmacon of the peace, and have lefte, that there shall be ne waryence ne dyscorde betwexte the said cytye of Lymeryk, ne the towne of Gallweye, from thensforwarde, for enye accon or demandys, as towching David Comen and Ambrose Lynche, ys waryence, saive that all forgyven in eyther syde, fro' the begenyng of the worlde, unto this presente daye and date.

Item, if so befalls that onye suyte or demande be made to eny person or persons before the mayr of Lymeryk, by eny of Gallweye, that the mayr of Lymeryk, for the tyme beinge, shall mynyster justyce and law to them of Gallweye, accordinge the consuetude of the cytye; and yn lykewyse the mayr of Gallweye shall mynyster and holde ryght to them of Lymeryk, in lyke manner and forme.

Item, more, we the forsaid arbytrours have left and accorded, in one, that Ambrose Lynche shall have of the cytye of Lymeryk, 37l. 13s. 4d. and this to be determined at Lymeryk as Xpofor Artur and Nich' Artur shall deme and redresse; and the said moneye shall be payde to the said Ambrose; that ys to saye, the 17l. 13s. 4d. that Ambrose made of costys, shall be payde in this wyse, as to seve, fyve pyeces of silver, whych Ambrose lefte at Lymeryk, that ys to saye, four pyeces wyth David Comen, and the other pece wyth John Ryce which five pees shall be deallyvered to Chrystofor Artur ys handys, incontynente, wythoute eny delaye, and the rest to be paid, halfe by Mychellmas next followinge the date hereof, and the other halfe to be paid be Maye nexte ensuinge the same date; and the 20l. that Ambrose paide to David Comen shall be deallyvered and payde to Leonard Artur for the 20l. that Ambrose took and had of the said Leonard Arture, and to be discompted of the som aforesaid.

In wytnes of which we, the foresaid arbytrors, have prayed and requyred Mathewe Lorcane, notorye, to wryte and sign this our arbytracon and pacificacon, endented under his sign manual, and have subscribed our names with the meraltie ys seall, sett to the same, changeably, wrytten at Gallweye, the day and year aforesaid.

Xpofor Artur. Mat. Lorcane. Walter Lynche. Nich' Artur. Notarius. Anthonye Lynche.

more frequently entered into, than inviolably preserved, so the people of Galway complained that those of Limerick still indulged in their resentment, though every matter in dispute was supposed to have been peaceably settled; and charged them with having again involved the town in fresh troubles, by insidiously instigating Pierce, earl of Ormond, to make a demand for the prisage of wines, an impost which had never been theretofore paid or demanded in Galway.

The importation of this article formed, from a very early period, the most considerable feature in the foreign commerce of the town; and our annals assert that more wine was, for a considerable period of time, annually imported into Galway than into all the other parts of the kingdom.²⁶ As the Ormond family was entitled, by a grant from King Edw. III. to the prisage of all wines brought into Ireland, viz. one tun out of every nine, and two out of every twenty, the loss to them, in consequence of its retention in Galway, was very considerable. The earl made the demand in the year 1526, and the town resisted payment. His lordship then made complaint, before the lords of the Star Chamber in England; agents attended on the part of the town; the question was solemnly debated; and, after mature deliberation, it was decreed, that "Inasmuch as the earl could not prove that either King Edward III. under whose grant he claimed, or any other before the grant, or himself, or any of his ancestors, received any prise wines of any stranger or denizen, by any prerogative, custom or other law in the town of Galway, so the town and corporation should pay no prisage, custom or toll unto the King, or any other person, other than they have used to pay in times past."²⁷ This decision, which was so favorable to the town, caused great rejoicings amongst the inhabitants, but had a contrary effect on the people of Limerick, who, irritated at the success of their rivals, dispatched private information to Henry VIII. that Galway had degenerated into the manners and customs of the Irish, with whom they corresponded, and to whom they afforded every assistance. This new attempt to injure the town also failed; for the King, depending on its well-known fidelity, was satisfied, without further inquiry, by sending over certain instructions, dated 28th April, 1536,²⁸ that the inhabitants should

26 They further relate, that previously to the reign of Henry VII. and long subsequent to the period mentioned above, the merchants of Galway furnished almost the entire kingdom with wine; and that for the convenience of supplying Dublin, Drogheda, and other circumjacent towns, they had vaults and stores at Athboy, in the county of Meath, the ruins of which it is added, remain there to this day.

27 Recital of Decree, Rolls Off. Dublin.

28 From the curious and interesting nature of this communication, it is here subjoined.

Ordinances for Galway.

By the King.

Well beloved, we grete you well, sig-

nifyinge unto you, that we, willing, of our tender and zeale we beare unto you, to the furtheringe of your weale, profit, and commoditie, and the extearpation of all abuses, hetherto used, or accustomed among you, will and require you, and neverthelesse straightly charge and command you, that ye, firmly and unfeignedly, observe the devises and articles ensueinge, perpetuallie.

Item, that no marchant man, or any other man, or man's servant or servants, within our towne of Galleyway, or suburbs of the same, goe with no manner of merchandize nor victuals in the country, within 20 miles compas of oure said towne, saev onely to oure markett townes, but suffer thinhabitants of the country to

use the English order, habit and language, hold no correspondence with the Irish, and particularly that they should desist from forestalling the markes of Limerick, an offence of which they were also accused. Such were the petty animosities which subsisted between these rival com-

resorte to the market of oure saide towne, to sell their wares and cattels, in our said market, according to the purporte of our chartors given by us, and our noble progenitors of famous memorie, to you inhabitants of our oure towne.

Item, that everie inhabitant, as well within the said towne, as the suburbs of the same, doeshave their over lipps, called crompeaulis; and suffer the haire of there hedds to growe, till it cover their eares, and that every of them weare English capps.

Item, that noe man, nor man child, doe weare noe mantles in the streets, but cloaks or gowns, coats, dubletts and hose, shapen after the English fashion, of the country cloth, or any other cloth it shall please them to buy.

Item that noe man, woman or childe, weare, in their shirts, or any other garments, no saffron; ne have any more cloth in there shirts or smocks but fyve stanelles of that country cloth.

Item, that every man provyd, with all speed, long bowes and English arrowes, and hunt, shooting, and specialllye every holyuay, and to leave all other unlawful games.

Item, that every inhabitant within oure said towne endeavour themselves to speake English, and to use themselves after the English facon; and, specialllye, that you, and every of you, doe put forth your children to scole, to lerne to speke English; and that you fayle not to fulfill theis our commandments, as you tender our favor, and will avoyd our indignation and high displeasure.

Furthermore, where we be credibly informed, that contrary to the effects of your pryvileges and jurisdictions, granted unto you by us, and our noble progenitors of loving memory, to hold before the maior, and his bayliffs there, all manner of pleas and actions, and to the judges of the same, certaigne young commoners of obstinacie presume to have their voyces in such processes and judgments, inclyninge inordinate affection to ther adherents and friends, and the raising of sysme and contrarywise amongst you, and the disturbing of administration of justice, we therefore willinge due redresse in that party, in avoyding all inconvyniences, will that the maior and bayliffs there callinge to them fower of the aldermen, doe minister justice, in all causes, between partie and partie; and if any person find him grieved, for lack of indifferencie, to complaine to our deputy and counsaile in Ireland; and if any commoner doe rebuke the maior, and his assistants, or repugno to obey ther decrees or judg-

ments, that it be lawful for the maior to put them to warde, and punish them according to their demeritics.

And also, where we be further informed, that malefactorers, comyting robberyes and spoiles, be succoured and mayntained, with the freers minours, and others, neere that oure towne, who take upon them to have privileges as a sanctuaries, for all such malefactors, and will not suffer any of them to be attached, or to be justified by our lawes; we will and command you, that ye do not allow any such pryvileges or saynctuaries, but attache and bring to their purgation, before our judges, all such malefactours, wheresoever ye may apprehend them, as well in any house of freers, or other religious, as in other prophane places; and this our letters shall be your sufficient warraunt and dischargd in that behalf; and in case any freers wille make resistance against you, in executinge the premises, that you take such freers, and them bringe before our judges, to be punished acordinge their deservings, and rede this clause to the freers.

Moreover, yf O'Brene, or any other Irishmen, be at warre with our deputy, or our subjects of our city of Limericke, that in ne wise by any coulour, practise or covyn you suffre ne vytoyls, iron, sault, or other commoditie, to passe from you to them during the time of their contention, till they shall be perflytly reconciled, uppon paine of your allegiances, and allways that ye observe the articles before writtyn, specialllye concerninge the keeping of marketts, and that of your resorte with any merchandize amongst Irishmen, at any time.

And where we be informed, that at such seasons as estraungers repaire within the haven of Limerick, certaigne of you forestall the markett of our sayd cittie, aluring and procuringe the stranger marchants to repaire out of the haven of Lymericke to you, offering them advantage above the profre of the said cittie, to their great disadvantage and comoditie, and ynhaunsinge the price of forraine and alien merchandize, to the profit of alyens: We therefore will and commaunde you, that you doe not alure and provoke any merchandyse aryving in the said haven of Limericke to you, ne they, to procure any merchandyse aryvyng in their haven, from you to them.

See that we haere no further complaynt in this behaulfe, or in any of the premises, uppon you, as you intende our favours, and avoidinge of the contrary.—Gyvyn at our manor of Greenwich, the 28th day of April, in the 28th year of our reign.—Lambeth MS. 897, fol. 106.

munities; until Limerick, in the end, owing to political causes, gained the ascendancy, which it holds to this day.

Leonard, lord Grey, the lord deputy of Ireland, having, about this time, received instructions from the king to oblige the Irish, by indenture, to acknowledge his supremacy, and renounce the Pope,²⁹ departed from Dublin on the 17th of June, 1537, with an army, for the purpose of enforcing obedience these orders, and on the 11th of July arrived in Galway. The corporation treated him and his soldiers gratis for seven days; and the mayor and aldermen, according to Sir Richard Cox, in his history, following the example of Limerick, took the oath of supremacy, and renounced the authority of the Pope. While his lordship remained in town, O'Flaherty, O'Madden and Mac Yëoris, (or Bermingham), came in, and made their submissions; but when the king received an account of what had taken place, he wrote to the lord deputy, that "their oaths, submissions and indentures were not worth a farthing, since they did not give hostages."³⁰ About the same time, Finglas, chief baron of the Exchequer, recommended that half the fee-farm of Galway should be paid to the lord deputy for the time being, and that the other half should be applied for repairing the walls, and providing for its security. The town was accordingly put into a state of defence; the south quay, or new-tower gate, was built, and the walls were repaired and provided with guns: which latter circumstance gave rise to one of the articles of impeachment against the unfortunate lord Grey; for, having brought the artillery in a small vessel to Galway, he made the town pay 34l. for the carriage.³¹ The hospital of St. Bridget, in the east suburbs, was founded for the poor of the town, and each burgess was obliged, in his turn, to send a maid servant to collect alms every sabbath day for its support; a custom which was long afterwards observed. This charitable institution was fortunately completed in the year 1543, when the sweating sickness broke out, and raged with great violence, destroying multitudes of the natives, and particularly the tradesmen of the town.

The period at length arrived which was to put an end to the hereditary feudal influence and interference of the family of De Burgo in Galway. In the patent of creation of Sir William De Burgh, the last *Mac William Eighter*, to be earl of Clanrickard and baron of Dunkyllen,³² dated at

²⁹ Cox.

³⁰ Lord Grey, who was afterwards beheaded for misconduct in the Government of Ireland, was a violent reformer. During his stay in Galway he seized and confiscated the sacred utensils and ornaments of the church of Saint Nicholas, of which see more in the account of the church.

³¹ Cox.

³² In the first year of the reign of Edw. VI. 1547, Pierce Martin, of Galway, and Dame Mary Lynch, his wife, "late wife of William Burke, earl of Clanrickard," petitioned the duke of Somerset, protector of England, stating, "that the said Marie was of a civile and Englishe

ordre of education and manners, inhabiting within the towne of Galway; and the said William Burke, before that he was created earl, being a man of wyld governance in those parties where he dwelled, obeying neither the king nor his grace's lawes, for good and erasonable considerations was coupled in lawful matrimonie with the said Deame Marie, and by reason thereof he was brought into soeche civilite, good order and conversation with the king's honorable counsell, and his subjects within his grace's realme of Ireland, that he the rather was procured to repaire into England to visite the king's majestie, whereupon he was created earl." The

Greenwich, 1st July, 1543, the cockets of Galway, to which he was theretofore entitled, and all pensions, profits and exactions within the town, were reserved to the crown, in lieu of which he was granted an annual sum of 30l. sterling, payable out of the treasury, and the third part of the first-fruits, and the abbey of Via Nova or Clonfert. The following is the reservation:—Excepting always, and reserving unto us, our heirs and successors, all that portion, custom, profit or pension of the cockets, and all and singular pensions, exactions, profits and commodities whatsoever, which the aforesaid William pretends or claims to have and receive from our town of Galway, in our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, so as that neither he, the said William, nor his heirs, shall henceforth have or claim any thing whatsoever within the said town, but that they shall be totally excluded therefrom for ever.”³³ Thus ended the authority of this ancient and powerful family in Galway, of which they were originally the principal founders and protectors, and afterwards governed with almost absolute control, for upwards of two centuries.

This exemption was followed by a new charter from the crown, granted by Henry VIII. on 3d July, 1545, whereby he confirmed all former charters, and added several very considerable privileges. The limits of the port were described from the islands of Arran to the town; the corporation was

petition further stated, that articles were executed on their intermarriage, by which the manor and eastle of Kylcolgan were settled on her during her natural life, and that the earl had entered into several other covenants, none of which he carried into execution: that at the time of their marriage she “was a woman of great substance,” and that she was entitled unto, and claimed the third part of all his real and personal property: that notwithstanding his grace’s order to the lord deputy and counsel of Ireland to take cognizance of their complaint, they could obtain no final order from them, save that they ordered that the petitioners “should have a chain of gold, with a erosse hanging thereon of fourteen ounces, value at 36l. 10s. sterling; and also a cuppe, called a nutte, with a cover of silver, gilte, of sixty-eight ounces, valued at 17l. sterling, and another standing cuppe of silver, with a cover, double gilte, of forty-three ounces, valued at 10l. 16s. 4d. sterling, in part of 100 marks, received with her in marriage; and of 50 marks bequeathed unto her, and of 25l. 13s. belonging to the children begotten by her first husbaond, which she delivered the said erle; wherefore they moste humbly beseechte your most noble grace, for the love of God, to regarde and ponder the said cause, that it may be called to examination before your grace.”

An order was accordingly sent from England to Sir Thomas Luttrell, chief justice of the common pleas; Walter Cardiff, second justice; and Patrick Barnewall, serjeant at law, dated the

23d January, 1547, authorizing them to finally hear and determine the matter of the petition. This was accompanied by a letter from the duke, wherein he writes, “Surelie it miggth be lamentable, that so noble man’s wyffe, deservinge so well towarde the king’s majestie, by conforminge her husband, shoulde be lefte without livinge for laeke of justice.”—The judges made their award or decree on the 13th of November following, stating, that they had summoned Rickard, then earl of Clanrickard, John Waekley and others, against whom the petitioners complained; and that it appeared by proofs taken before them, “that the late earl was first married unto one Granie ny Keroill, who was living at the time of the marriage between him and the petitioner, Mary; and that consequently the latter marriage was void, and she was not entitled to thirds. But, as he bound himself in the forfeiture of 200l. sterling and 100l. worth of plate, to convey the castle and manor of Kylcolgan to her at his death, which, by his will, he left unto the present earl, and as he received the said Dame Mary in her marriage, affirming and swearing there was no impediment to the same,” they therefore adjudged the 500l. forfeited, and awarded same forthwith to be paid to the peitioners, with a special provisoe, that Dame Mary, and her children by the late earl, should be at all times at liberty to disprove the marriage between him and Granie ny Keroill.—Rot Pat. 2 Edw. VI.

33 Rot Pat. 33, 34, 35 Hen. VIII.

freed from several excessive tolls within all the king's dominions; and it was particularly granted that no person should pay any prisage for wines imported into the town, "because prisage had not theretofore been accustomed to be paid there,"³⁴ nor any customs whatsoever for any other goods imported, save such as of old were accustomed to be paid. All manner of goods and merchandizes were allowed to be exported, except woollen and linen goods: all such liberties and privileges as were enjoyed by the town of Drogheda were fully granted and confirmed, saving however, to the king and his heirs, all emoluments to him and his ancestors, lords of the town³⁵ issuing thereout, and also the customs of the cocket; and also saving to the portreve and burgesses of Athenry, and their successors, all such privileges as they were accustomed to have in times past, in the town and port thereof.³⁶ The flourishing state of commerce in Galway is fully evidenced by this charter; and at this period, and for upwards of a century afterwards, it was considered one of the first emporiums for trade, not only in Ireland, but, with very few exceptions, in the British islands. Its overflowing wealth and prosperity led the town to adopt measures and lay down certain regulations which proved contrary to the established laws of the land. Thus, a bye-law was enacted by the corporation in 1542, whereby it was "ordered, that no person of this town shall buy or sell with any merchants of Lymbricke, Corcke, Watterford, Dublin, or other towns or citties for any goods, or cause same to be transported by land or sea, unless they come to this town as other strangers and merchants, in shippes, on pain of forfeiting the goods and 20l." This bye-law being in force, one Thomas Fitz-Simon, a Dublin merchant, in the year 1548, imported a parcel of cloth into the town, which, after paying the accustomed legal duties, was found to be forfeited under this corporate regulation, and was accordingly seized by John Lynch and Edward Lynch, then customers of the town. The importer's only remedy was by complaint to the chancellor of Ireland, the sole resource in those times for many cases, which, at present, can be redressed by the common law. The corporation, in their defence, represented that none, except the inhabitants, were allowed to sell any wares within the town, except in gross; and that even for such wares sold in gross custom should be paid according to the ancient form, "used tyme of minde," and confirmed by their charters. They also stated that the usage of the town was, that if any inhabitant should retail or sell the merchandize or ware of any stranger, colouring to be his own, by fraud and deceit, intending thereby to save the custom to the stranger.

34 This clause was inserted in consequence of the attempt of the earl of Ormond in 1526, to compel the payment of the prise wines, though the corporation afterwards alleged it was "rather to have strong matter against the prince than against the lord Ormond's title." Notwithstanding this clause, prisage was afterwards established against the town. in 1584, of which see a particular account

hereafter.

35 This was evidently an allusion to the right of the king, as descended from Lionel, duke of Clarence, the husband of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of the earl of Ulster.

36 Rot. Mem. Scac. 36 Hen. VIII.—This charter is recited at length in that of Elizabeth.—Append. No. III.

that such goods should be forfeited to the common use of the corporation, as was the case in the instance complained of. The chancellor, however, on 13th February, 1548,³⁷ decreed otherwise, and declared that the citizens of Dublin could sell wholesale and retail, free of any custom whatever, in the port of Galway; and it was consequently ordered that the customers should pay back the customs, and restore the cloth. This decision, which was made according to the strictest rules of justice, however it might have militated against the particular monopoly of the corporation, must, by freeing so much of its trade, have been essentially beneficial to the town.

During the short reigns of Edward VI. and his successor, Mary, and the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth, Galway, far distant from those scenes of turbulent fanaticism which disgraced these unhappy times, continued for a while to enjoy peace and tranquility; but it was, however, destined soon to experience its reverses, and, though so remotely situated, to feel its share of the concussion which shook and agitated the great body of the kingdom. The spirit of reformation, though it proceeded slowly, at length found its way to the hitherto peaceable abodes of the town, and marked for destruction the possessions of those who were consecrated to their religion and their God. Edward VI. in the third year of his reign, granted a charter of confirmation to the town, but conferred no new privileges.³⁸ The collegiate church of St. Nicholas was soon afterwards seized into the king's hands; the catholic warden and vicars were dispossessed; and by letters patent, dated 29th April, 1551, the erection of the church into a collegiate, by the bull of Innocent VIII. was declared void; but it was, at the same time, re-established by virtue of the king's power, as supreme head of the church. Patrick Kirwan, a layman, was appointed warden, eight vicars were nominated, and several other alterations took place, which were but introductory to more important changes.

These revolutions in religion, however they might have effected the morals of the people, did not damp their ardor for improvement. In 1557, the east end of the tholsel was raised at the public expense, under the direction of the mayor, James Oge Lynch. The year following, which was towards the close of the reign of Queen Mary, the earl of Sussex, lord deputy, marched to Galway,³⁹ where he was splendidly received, having been previously met in procession by the archbishop of Tuam, the bishops of Clonfert, Clonmacnoise, and the clergy, who all testified their allegiance

³⁷ 2 Ed. VI. Decrees preserved in Rolls Office.

³⁸ This charter is enrolled on the patent roll, 3 Ed. VI. Rolls Office.

³⁹ About this time, and indeed at much later periods, travelling from Galway to Dublin was attended with considerable danger and wills were frequently made before setting out. In 1556, Stephen Fitz-Arthur Lynch, Nicholas Blake and Andrew Browne, of Galway, merchants, together with the archbishop of Tuam

and the earl of Clanrickard, were bound in a bond for 1200l. to appear before the chancellor of Ireland, in Dublin, in crastino ascensionis. Not having attended, their bond became forfeited; but having signified by letter, "the feare they had of the waies, and doubting moche, if they shulde have travayled throughe Irishmens' countreys, without companye, to have been taken and spoyelled," it was deemed sufficient to save the forfeiture.—Rot. Recog. 3, 4 Phil. and Mary.

to the queen. The west gate and tower of defence, at the end of the bridge, were then built by Thomas Martin;⁴⁰ and, about the same time, several other public works and private buildings were erected. After these improvements were made, the annals relate, that an Italian traveller, induced by its fame in foreign parts, visited the town, and that he carefully remarked and noted its situation and extent, the style of its buildings, the manners and customs of the inhabitants, and every other particular worthy of attention. They further state, that being at mass in a private house, (its celebration in public having been in that year, 1568, first prohibited) he saw, at one view, the blessed sacrament in the hands of the priest, boats passing up and down the river, a ship entering the port in full sail, a salmon killed with a spear, and hunters and hounds pursuing a deer; upon which he observed, that although he had travelled the greatest part of Europe, he had never before witnessed a sight which combined so much variety and beauty. At that time the town was described by Campion, in his history, as a "proper neat city at the sea side."

In the following year Sir Henry Sidney, the lord deputy, marched to Galway with an army, and established Sir Edward Fitton, knight, in the presidency of Connaught.¹ For more than half a century before this appointment, the province was peaceable, and exhibited no other infractions of the laws, than such as were perhaps inseparable from the then imperfect state of society; but this new provincial governor was no sooner fixed in his appointment, than matters began to change. Cruel and sanguinary in his nature, his wanton severities goaded those, who were hitherto peaceably inclined, into acts of open rebellion; and particularly the sons of the earl of Clanrickard, commonly called the *Mac-an-Earlas*, and their numerous adherents, who were driven into those unhappy courses, which, after entailing so much misery on the country, terminated in their own destruction. These troubles broke out with violence in 1572, and continued without intermission until 1575; when Sir Henry Sidney again visited the town, which was, in the interim, miserably harassed by the incursions of the incensed Irish under the *Mac-an-Earlas*. "When he arrived," says Stanihurst, "he found the town much decayed, and almost desolated; sundry of the good

40 By letters patent, dated 13th September 1558, a grant was made to Thomas Martin and his heirs, "of one place of a water-mill, or a parcel of land sufficient to build one on, at the farther end of the bridge from Galway and backwards from it on the side nearest to the sea, at four pence a year; provided that, within two years, he build a gate at the west end of bridge, at his own expence, under the inspection of the mayor and bailiffs of the town, of sufficient breadth and height, and a tower of stone and lime, for the defence and guard of the said gate."—Rot. Pat. 5, 6 Mar.

A.D. 1562, September 7, Anthony Fytton, gent., was appointed searcher—

Rot. Pat.—1569, November 6, John Crofton, customer and collector—Fiant.—and 1570, June 12, Edward Adame, comptroller of the customs and subsidies of the port of Galway—Id.—On 20th March, 1575, the office of searcher, gauger and curciator, in and by the river and port of Galway, and within all the creeks and lesser ports annexed thereto, was granted to the mayor, bailiffs and commonalty of the town.—Rot. Pat.

1 He was the first president of the province, and was appointed by patent, dated 8th June, 1569, during pleasure, at a fee of 133l. 6s. 8d. English, yearly, with the leading of 30 horsemen, 20 footmen and a lieutenant.—Rot. Pat. 12 Eliz.

householders having sought new habitations, under Mac William Eughter."—His own description of it is as follows:—"First, I find the towne of Galwaye moche decaied, both in number of expert sage men of yeares and yonge men of warre, in respect of that I have seene; which great decay hath grown thorough the horrible spoyle done upon them by the sonnes of the earle of Clanrickarde, in so moche as it was evidentlye proved before me that fiftie howsholders of that towne doe nowe enhabite under Mac William Croghter,² and it seemeth they have not onely lost their wealth. but with it their wittes and hearts. Surely it may welle seeme they were in point to have given up all, and almost to have forgotten that they received any corporation of the crowne; but I trust they are now revived, and I hope on the mendinge hande."³—While his lordship remained in the town, the persecuted Irish, taking advantage of his presence, flocked into him for protection: seven of the family of the Clandonnells, and after them Mac William Oughter, "who could speak Latin, although he could not speak English,"⁴ submitted by oath and indenture. Mac William agreed to pay two hundred and fifty marks yearly for his country, besides contributions of men at risings out; and he also consented that the Clandonnells should hold their lands of the queen. Upon the ratification of this treaty he was knighted, and received some small presents from the lord deputy; and he requested that an English sheriff should be sent into his country, which was accordingly complied with. Owen O'Mayle,⁵ chief of Borishoole,

2 In the county of Mayo, the inhabitants of the town who removed to this county, and settled in it at this period, were the founders and ancestors of the highly respectable families, of the Galway names, ever since residing there, and possessing vast estates, viz. The Blakes, Brownes, Ffrenches, Kirwans, Lynches, etc.

3 Letter to the lords of the council, 28th April, 1576.—Collins.

4 Cox—Stanihurst says of the Irish, "They speak Latin like a vulgar language, learned in their common schools of leachcraft (i.e. physic) and law, whereat they begin children, and hold on 16 or 20 years."—Even so late as the beginning of the eighteenth century, the English tongue was confined to a narrow space, while the Irish was almost universally spoken throughout the kingdom.

The state of education in Ireland, during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, was truly lamentable. It is a fact, frequently mentioned by our historians, and authenticated by innumerable records, that the signatures of many Irish lords, even those of English extraction, were subscribed with a mark, they not knowing how to write even their own names.—Hollingshead's description of the great earl of Desmond, though somewhat overcharged, is curious:—"He was rude and savage," says the historian, "both in apparel and behaviour; he had neither learning nor manners, but lived after a

barbarous fashion in the country, and perhaps had not so much as a glass window to his house; yet he was the best landed subject in the king's dominions."—What, from a noble savage like this, could possibly be expected but resentment, and revenge for real or supposed injuries; causes to which may justly be attributed his manifold acts of treason and rebellion.

5 Father of the celebrated Grace O'Malley, better known by the name of Grana-weal. This celebrated heroine, who was the wife of Mac William Oughter, was so determined and persevering in her hostility to the English, and committed so many acts of depredation, that it was found necessary, in 1579, to send a body of troops from Galway, under the command of Capt. William Martin, to besiege her romantic and impregnable castle of Carrick-a-Uile, near Newport, in the county of Mayo. This expedition sailed from Galway on the 8th of March, but so spirited was the defence made by this extraordinary woman, that they were obliged to retreat on the 26th of the same month, and very narrowly escaped being made prisoners—a circumstance which would have been attended with the instant death of the entire. The names of the men sent on this occasion are entered on an old MS. book, which formerly belonged to Sir Edward Fitton, and which is now in possession of the author.

in like manner, came in and submitted, as did all the other chieftains of the extensive districts now forming the county of Mayo.

The remainder of the country was still destroyed by the ravages of the Mac-an-Earlas, who obstinately stood out, and against whom infinite complaints were made to the lord deputy. They, either dreading his power, or wishing to dissemble for the present, as their subsequent conduct proved, voluntarily came to Galway, and, while the lord deputy was attending divine service in the church of St. Nicholas, on the sabbath day, they entered before him, and, kneeling down in a suppliant posture, confessed their faults, submitted, and humbly craved pardon, promising amendment for the future, and that they would never more revolt from their allegiance to her majesty, or disobey her laws. They were, however, immediately put under arrest, and sent close prisoners to Dublin; but by the advice of the privy council, after receiving many sharp reprehensions, and some trifling punishment, they were soon after liberated, and the lord deputy having remained three weeks in Galway, departed for Dublin, where he arrived on the 13th of April, 1577.

Two months had scarcely elapsed when he received information, by express, from the mayor of Galway, that the Mac-an-Earlas, notwithstanding their late pretended repentance and submission, were again in arms; that by the counsel and consent of the earl, their father,⁶ they crossed the Shannon by night, threw off their English apparel, which they had agreed to wear, and put on the dress of the Irish; sent for all their friends to meet them, and bring the Scots whom they had solicited; and that, being assembled in considerable force, they marched towards Athenry which they took and sacked, destroyed the few houses which were lately built there, set the new gates on fire, dispersed the masons and labourers who were working, and broke down and defaced the queen's arms, and others there, made and ready to be set up. On receiving this intelligence, the lord deputy immediately set out from Dublin with an army, and in three days was in Connaught: the Mac-an-Earla's forces dispersed, and fled to the mountains. The old earl endeavoured to acquit himself, but no excuse would be accepted; his castles were taken possession of, and himself sent prisoner to Dublin, where he was kept in close confinement. The lord deputy then came to Galway, where having remained a few days, to secure and strengthen the town, and encourage the inhabitants who were in great

⁶ If this charge against the earl was founded in truth, his subsequent conduct was very much altered for the better; for, in his last will, now before us, dated at Galway, 4th August, 1582, the following passage occurs:—"Item, last of all, I leave my blessing with my sonnes, upon condition, that is, to serve true and quietly, without any molestation or trouble, the Quene of England and all her officers; and he or they that will doe contrary, I leave my perpetual curs with him." Stanilhurst, who has inserted in his history descriptive verses of the Irish noble, men of his time, has the following of the earl of Clanrickard: Quam mihi majorum fama bona gesta dederunt, Hanc mihi natorum barbara facto negant That glory which my great ancestors won, Is by my offspring's graceless deeds undone.

consternation and dread that they would be surprised, and the town taken and plundered, as Athenry had been, he departed for Limerick.

The lord deputy was scarcely out of the province when these turbulent chieftains again rallied from the mountains, assembled their followers, and, having hired two thousand Scotch forces, laid siege to the castle of *Baille Riogh*, or Loughrea, which lately belonged to the earl, their father, being one of the castles taken possession of a short time before, and then garrisoned by Thomas Le Strange and Captain Collier, with one hundred foot and fifty horse. The castle was strong, and the besieged behaved with great valour, they made different sallies, in which six of the principal captains of the besiegers were killed, together with one hundred and fifty of their men. Despairing of taking the castle, the assailants raised the siege, and directed their force against Mac William Oughter, who had never joined in their proceedings, and took several of his castles; but the lord deputy having arrived in the meantime, joined his forces, and the Mac-an-Earlas dispersed: the greatest part of their followers were destroyed, and they were never after able to raise force sufficient to disturb the peace of the country.⁷—From the detail of these melancholy transactions, which entirely originated in the narrow and unconciliating policy of the then Government of England towards its Irish subjects, there are few who would not be inclined not only to commiserate, but even to excuse and pardon, the infatuated resistance of the unfortunate Irish to that misguided government; and particularly so, when they beheld the heads of a noble and powerful family, of English race, forced, by the unrestrained atrocities of a petty provincial governor, into a rebellion, in which so large a portion of the kingdom was nearly destroyed. Happy would it have been for Ireland had the spirit of conciliation and peace, guided by justice and tempered with mercy, actuated its rulers for ages past: its history would not now abound with the manifold and gloomy descriptions of murder, treason and rebellion, which disgrace almost every page of it.

These troubles having at length subsided, the town was rewarded by the queen for its losses and fidelity to her government. On the 14th of July, 1579, she granted it a charter containing most ample privileges. All similar preceding grants were confirmed, power was given to create, yearly, a recorder, coroner, escheator, comptroller of the customs, gauger and all other officers, and to grant safe conduct, to and from the town, to all foreign merchants. Every mayor, for the time being, was created admiral of the port and bay, as far as the islands of Aran, and was to be entitled to all the wrecks of the sea. The inhabitants were exempted from attending at

⁷ A.D. 1580, one of these unhappy men, summary trial, were both condemned to whose name was William, and who was die. The sentence was carried into execution the youngest son of the earl of Clan-tion by William Martin, the marshal, rickard, together with a son of the earl who caused them both to be hung to the of Thomond (who notwithstanding his Market-cross, outside the east gate, and father's previous submission, had also cruelly hastened their death, before their joined in those rebellious proceedings,) pardon, which was solicited and obtained were taken near Galway, and, after a by the mayor, could arrive.—Annals.

assizes, juries, or other civil duties, outside the town. The customs, as contained in the grant of Richard II. were confirmed with many additions, but were directed, however, to be applied to the murage and pavage of the town. The mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and corporation were authorized, from time to time, to assemble in arms, and to pass and go with flags, displayed in hostile array, to any country, island, arm of the sea, or other place whatsoever, to take, recover and punish all robberies, felonies and crimes committed against them. The mayor and recorder, for the time being, were created justices of the peace and gaol delivery within the town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof; and no other was to exercise like power therein; nor was any other officer of the queen, her heirs, or successors, to have any authority whatsoever within the town: power was given to have a prison and keeper thereof; and, finally, all privileges enjoyed by the city of Waterford and the town of Drogheda, were fully granted.⁸ The queen's bounty did not stop, even after the extension of these ample privileges, but was further extended by patent, dated 11th September, 1578, in pursuance of letters under her own hand, stating, "The vearly good commendacon made unto us, for divers respects, of our loving subjects of our town of Galway, for their dutyfulness and good services sondry times constantly showed, as occasions have been offered, for which we would they should be considered and encoradged:" the corporation was accordingly granted leases in reversion of the possessions of the dissolved monasteries of St. Francis, St. Augustin and St. Dominick, adjoining the town; the parsonage, fishing and cocket; and as much land as should amount to the yearly value of 100 marks, nearest the town, and most commodious to them. These, with other grants to the wardens and vicars, and particular encouragement to individuals, were the marks of the royal recompence and favor to the inhabitants for their sufferings and loyalty in those perilous times.⁹

On the 7th of November, 1579, the lord justice, Sir William Pelham, arrived in Galway, accompanied by the earl of Thomond and the Berwick bands. "His lordship removed into the towne of Galwaie, twelve mills, verie rockie way, and full of great loughes. The towne is well bulte, and walled, with an excellent good haven, and is replenished with many welthie merchants. The townes-men and wemmen present a more civil show of life than other townes in Ireland do, and maie be compared, in my judgement, next Dublin and Watterford, the only towne."¹⁰ He was most

8 Rot. Pat. 20 Eliz.—This charter, naught; and Sir Nicholas Malby, knight, under which the town is entitled to so many valuable privileges, contains recitals seal, dated 31st March, 1579. In his by inspeximus of all preceding charters: it is therefore given at full in the Appendix, province, the queen united the country of carefully compared and translated. An Thomond, afterwards called the county of imperfect translation of it was made in Clare, to his government of Connaught. the year 1693, by Elisha Cole, M.A. for —Rot. Pat. 21 Eliz. the use of the corporation.

9 Sir Edward Fitton, whose violent proceedings caused so many troubles, was Right Hon. Sir W. Pelham, began 11th Oct. 1579, and ending 7th of Sept. 1580—removed from the presidency of Con- Lambeth MS. 597, 27 C.

honorably received; and, in order to encourage the inhabitants, he confirmed certain articles, which were in effect as follows:—

The charter of Gallewaie, with new liberties, confirmed.

First.—“ That no writ of subpoena shall be warded out of the chancerie against anie inhabitant of Gallewaie, until the partie which sueth out the writ, have put in good and sufficient suerties before the lord chancellor or the maior of Gallewaie to prosecute the same with effect.

“ That no new office or officer be erected in the towne of Gallwaie by anie deputie or governour, otherwise than as they in times past have been used to do.

“ That the maior, by the advice of foure aldermen, and other foure discreet men of the towne, upon good considerations, may grant safe conduct and protection to English rebels and Irish enimies.

“ That the merchants of the towne, which shall buie anie wares or merchandize of strange merchants, shall put in good and sufficient bonds before the maior, that he will well and truly make paiment unto the said merchant stranger for his debt and dutie.

“ That if anie inhabitant of the towne use anie undecent and unreverent speach to the maior, that he shall be punished according to the qualities of the fault and offense.

“ That the maior, bailiffes and inhabitants shall inioy, use and exercise all their ancient liberties, usages and customes.

“ That in all actions tried before the maior, the partie condemned shall paie reasonable costs, and the said maior shall not take anie fee for anie sentence, called *Oleigethe*.

“ That no dead bodies shall be interred or buried within the towne and walles of Gallewaie.

“ That when anie strange merchants come to their port and haven, that the same be serched and viewed for weapons and munitions, and that none above the number of ten persons of the said ship shall come into the towne.

“ That no stranger be suffered to take the view of the strength of the towne, nor to walk on the wals.

“ That the maior, from time to time, doo take the muster and view of all the able men, and of their furniture and armour.

“ That all unserviceable people in time of service be sent out of the said towne.

“ That sufficient vittels, from time to time, be prepared to serve the towne for ten moneths at the least before hand.

“ That a store-house be provided alwais in the towne for a staple of vittels to be kept there at all times.”¹¹

The lord justice, on departing, found it necessary to leave a company of soldiers behind him, which were commanded by captain Casey; and there being no barrack to receive them, he was obliged to hire a house

for their accommodation, the rent of which was paid by the queen. These were the first regular troops ever quartered in Galway.¹²

Sir John Perrot, lord deputy of Ireland, visited the town in 1584. This able and excellent man, who "was renowned for valour and justice, and noted especially for a humane and equitable attention to the ancient natives,"¹³ soon after his arrival divided Connaught into five counties, to which he gave the names of Galway, Sligo, Mayo, Roscommon and Leitrim, and added Thomond by the name of Clare;¹⁴ he appointed a sheriff in each, and established Sir Richard Bingham, knight, in the presidency of the entire. While in Galway, he observed many disorderly practices, the reformation of which he strongly recommended to the mayor and corporation. An inquiry was accordingly instituted, and several matters were presented for correction and improvement, upon the oaths of a jury of the most respectable citizens. An abstract of the proceedings on this occasion is given in another part of this volume; it will be found curious, and may enable the reader to form an idea of several manners and customs which, in these times, were prevalent in Galway, but which are long since obsolete and forgotten.

Notwithstanding the turbulence of the times, trade, buildings and improvements were carried out in the town with persevering vigilance and industry. Wine, the principal article of traffic, was imported in vast quantities, on an average, as the annals testify, of from a thousand to fourteen hundred tuns annually. Exemption from prisage contributed not a little to the encouragement of this branch of commerce; but the Ormond family, although worsted in their former endeavours to establish this claim, determined once more to revive it. Accordingly the earl of Ormond, in 1584, instituted proceedings in the chancery of Ireland against the corporation, which they, relying on the decree of the star chamber of England pronounced in their favor, in 1526, and on the exemption from prisage contained in the charter of Henry VIII. most strenuously defended. They were, however, ultimately defeated; and the earl's right to this valuable

¹² Sir Francis Berkely had 1000 foot and 50 horse in the town, from whence he marched to Munster to oppose the Spaniards, who landed at Kinsale, on the 23d of September in that year.—*Pacat Hib.*—In April following, there were but 200 foot left to guard Galway and Athlone.—*Moryson*, Vol. II.

¹³ *Leland*, Vol. III. p. 293.

¹⁴ At the request of Donogh O'Brien, the fourth earl of Thomond, Queen Elizabeth, in 1602, re-united the county of Clare to the province of Munster.—The queen's instructions to the lord deputy were—"Forasmuch as our county of Clare was of ancient time within the government or precinct of our province of Munster, until of late annexed to our province of Connaught, which we understand was upon some untrue surmise made by our commissioners for Connaghte to the

grievance and dislike of our subjects of that county; our pleasure is, that you, our deputy and council there, shall speedily consider of this information, and, if you find it not evidently an hindrance to our service, that then you speedily give order, that, by revocation of our former commission and letters patent for government of these several provinces, and by granting new commissions of like authority & effect, and by all other ways requisite in law, you cause our said county of Clare to be re-united and annexed to our province of Munster, and to be reduced under the order and government of our president and council of Munster, which we are persuaded will be for the advancement of our service, and the good liking of our loving subjects in those parts.—*Rot. Pat.* 45 Eliz. D.R. 5.

impost was established. As this is a subject somewhat curious and interesting, an abstract of the proceedings is subjoined.¹⁵ It was a question of considerable moment at the time, being, perhaps, the most important until then decided in the kingdom, and one in which there appears to have been displayed a considerable portion of legal knowledge and historical learning.

15 In the year 1584, the earl of Ormond exhibited his bill in the Chancery of Ireland against the mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commons of Galway, setting forth that King Edward III. was seized of all the premises of all the ports and havens of Ireland; that is to say, of every ship or barque of the lading of nine tuns, and from nine to twenty-one tun, and of twenty tuns and above, two tuns of the choice of all the wines. That being so seized, he by letters patent, granted said premises to James Butler, then earl of Ormonde, from whom the right thereto descended to the complainant. That this grant was confirmed by letters patent of Philip and Mary, but that the mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commons of the town of Galway, in the province of Connaught, not only always gave impediment in taking said prise wines, but also wrongfully received and converted to their own use the value of 5000l. of the prise wines grown there due, without any colour of right, but pretending prescription.—The defendants, by Anthony Lynche, Nicholas Lynche, John Skerritt, Domynek Martin, Marcus Lynche and Edmonde Frenche, made answer; wherein, amongst other things, they stated, that neither the plaintiff, nor any of his ancestors, since the said grant of Edward III. was seized of any prisage in the port of Galway, and that they, and all others bringing and discharging wines therein were free and discharged of, and from the same. As evidence hereof they adduced an acquittal, by the privy council of England in the time of Henry VIII. and also the charter of that monarch dated at Westminster, the 3d of July, in the 36th of his reign, that no person thereafter bringing wines in any ship or boat to the key or port of Galway, and there discharging the same should pay prisage. They further stated, that in the reign of Edward I. a composition was entered into between the king and merchant strangers, whereby he, his heirs and successors were to receive two shillings encrease of custom, out of every tun of wine, besides divers other encrease of customs upon sundry other sorts of merhandize: in consideration of which, the said king granted that all merchant strangers, repairing to every port of his dominions, should be free and discharged of any payment of prise wine, which encrease of customs were ever since paid accordingly, and said merchants strangers freed and discharged of prisage.—To this the earl replied, amongst other things, that the said com-

position was made with merchant strangers only, and did not extend to Ireland and that if it even did, it was determined, as well by the death of Edward I. as by the aforesaid grant of Edward III. As to the decree made by the privy council of England, he states that it was only until better proof should appear; and as to the allegation that no prisage was paid by the defendants since the grant of Edward III. the same was detained by the forcible and uncivil dealings of the defendants, who made and meant to make a commodity of their dwelling in a remote part. The defendants rejoined, and, amongst other things, said that the grant of Edward III. was made after the release of prise wines to strangers, and therefore no more could pass than the prisage of the denizens of some other parts of Ireland, and not of Galway. That at the time of said grant, said commission was in force, and, when made, was proclaimed through said king's dominions, being higher esteemed to redound to the general profit of both the realms of England and Ireland, and extending *infra regnum et potestatum suam*, stretched to Ireland as well as to England, the same being then equally under the government of Edward I. that merchant strangers still took the benefit thereof in England. As to the prisage of denizens, they said, that the corporation of Galway was, time out of mind, freed and discharged thereof, paying sixpence tunnage for every tun, which custom was granted to the corporation by Richard II. They then boldly stated, "That prisage is of that nature that a subject may lawfully prescribe to be discharged thereof against the prince, and if not against the prince, yet against the complainant, being in respect of the prince a private person, prescription lieth, notwithstanding his estate to be an estate in tail, the reversion thereof unto the prince: and that, the rather, as the payment thereof is more hurtful than beneficial unto her majesty, for thereby trade with strangers is slakened to the great decay of her majesty's impost and other duties, which would grow unto her majesty if strangers were not discouraged by elaim and demand of the said prisage to resort hither, as in truth late experience declareth many strangers have been; and as to their uncivil dealing, and that they meant to make a commodity of their dwelling in remote parts, they said that, since the first erection of their corporation, they have, with willing minds and furtherance, planted and increased civility,

The year 1588 was rendered memorable for the destruction of the celebrated Spanish Armada. One of the ships which composed this ill-fated fleet was wrecked in the bay of Galway and upwards of seventy of the crew perished. Several other vessels were lost along the coast; and such of the Spaniards as escaped the waves, were cruelly butchered by order of the lord deputy, Sir William Fitz-Williams, who, finding, or pretending to find, fault with the alleged lenity of Sir Richard Bingham, the president of the province, commissioned Robert Fowle, deputy marshal, who dislodged these unfortunate men from their hiding-places, and in a summary manner executed about two hundred of them, which so terrified the remainder, that, though sick and half-famished, they chose sooner to trust to their shattered barks, and the mercy of the waves, than to their more merciless enemies, in consequence of which multitudes of them perished. In order the more effectually to satiate his thirst for their blood, and to seize their rumoured treasures, the lord deputy himself made a journey into Connaught, where this sanguinary man arrived in June, 1589, and on the 20th of that month he came to Galway. Sir Murrough O'Flaherty, William Burke, the blind Abbot, and several others of the principal inhabitants of Mayo and Iar-Connaught, came in and submitted; but were put under conditions to give hostages, disperse their forces, deliver up all the Spaniards and Portuguese

embraced the liberty of the law, and abandoned the contrary.—The earl sur-replied, and the cause was heard for several days. On argument it was stated, in his behalf, that the decree of the star chamber, together with the composition with strangers and prescription, being the material points of defence were resolved by Sir Thomas Bromly, knight, lord chancellor of England, and Sir Gilbert Gerrard, knight, master of the rolls in England, (who were directed by the queen to decide thereon,) to be no title for subjects or strangers to be discharged of the payment of prise wines, and this decision was openly shewed in court under their hands. Wherefore, and particularly as the prescription, whereby the defendants claimed their discharge, was at divers times interrupted by seisin and possession, as appeared to the court by divers good matters, and especially by a livery made in the reign of Henry IV. to Jas. Butler, then earl of Ormonde, whereby he was restored to all the prise wines of Ireland. by these words: "*De prisâ vinorum in omnibus portubus et locis maritimis Hiberniæ,*" saving the whole prise wines of Corke, and one half the prise wines of Waterford only, which were granted to the said corporations long before the time of Edward III.; For all these and other reasons, the lord chancellor and court were fully resolved that there was good cause to decree for the earl.—Upon this the defendants produced a direction from the privy council of England, commanding the hearing of the cause before them.

The earl soon after obtained counter directions from the same to have the cause decided in Ireland. It came on again to be heard; and the court, after delivering their opinion upon each of the points of defence, decreed that the earl should re- and discharge wines there, whether belonging to denizens or strangers. No decree was made respecting the 5000*l.* claimed for the back duties, but it was ordered that the earl should have 20*l.* for his costs, sustained in the suit.—"And for that the said porte or haven of Galway lieth in remote partes, where the said earle and his agents feare forceable resistance in seising of the said prise wines," it was ordered that the governor and other principal magistrates of Connaught, the justices of the same, the sheriff of the county of Galway, and the mayor and bailiffs of Galway, for the time being, should be enjoined to assist the earl in taking the same.—Thus ended this memorable contest, which was then considered of so much importance, but which at present serves only to shew the extensive commerce carried on in Galway at the above period. Before concluding, it may not be uninteresting to notice the opinion of the court on the operation of the act of the 27th of Edward III. which the detion with merchant strangers: it was, "that the same being but in England, could not be effectual in Ireland;" and thus it appears, that what Molyneux so ably proved a century after, was at this time the known and established law of the land.—Orig. Decree, Rolls Office.

to whom they had given refuge, pay fines, and make amends for all spoils which they had taken. Fitz-Williams, while he remained in town, caused several of the Spaniards, delivered up on this occasion, to be beheaded near St. Augustin's monastery on the hill, amidst the murmurs and lamentations of the people;¹⁶ and, having thus wreaked his vengeance on these unfortunate men, he departed for Dublin.

About this time several considerable works were raised for the defence and security of the town. The point of *Cean-na-bhalla*, at the quay, was converted into a fortification, and furnished with great guns; and a part of the adjoining walls was built at the expense of the corporation. The lord deputy, Russell, arrived here in 1595, and was received with great rejoicings:¹⁷ he remained but a short time. The object of his journey seems to have been to inquire into the state of the town and province; and during his stay several complaints were made of the rigor and exactions of Sir Richard Bingham, the governor, for which he was afterwards removed.¹⁸

Soon after the departure of the lord deputy the northern Irish, led by *Hugh Ruadh O'Donnell*, after destroying the castle of Enniskillen, penetrated into Connaught, and were joined by Tibbot M'Walter Kittagh Bourke. (upon whom they conferred the title of *Mac William*.) and by several other powerful confederates. They commenced hostilities in January, 1596, and wasted, burned and destroyed almost the entire county of Galway. On the 15th of that month they invested Athenry, burned the gates, and entered the town; but being repulsed in an attack on the castle, which was bravely defended, and having failed in an attempt to scale the battlements, they took possession of all the wall-towers, and as many of the inhabitants as guarded them they made prisoners. They then set fire to the town, which, with the exception of the castle that resisted them, and the abbey and church, which alone were spared, was soon reduced to ashes.¹⁹ After these

¹⁶ Lynch, in *Vita Kirovani*, relates that their dead bodies were carefully wrapt in fine linen by the towns-women, and committed to burial: he further mentions that only two of the Spaniards escaped death on this occasion; that they were for a long time concealed in the town, and afterwards safely conveyed to Spain.

¹⁷ "As soon as he entered the city, four great pieces of ordnance was discharged."—MS. account of his journey preserved in Lambeth library, No. 62.

¹⁸ He was succeeded by Sir Conyers Clifford, knight, who was appointed by privy seal, dated at Westminster, September 4th, 1597; being, as the appointment states, "a gentleman of good sufficiency both in war and peace, having been theretofore employed in that province."—Rot. Pat. 39 Eliz. 2, p.

Sir Conyers Clifford appointed his kinsman, James D'Arcy, deputy; and was himself soon after succeeded by Sir Henry Dockwra, who was appointed in the year 1599.—Fiant, Rolls Office.

¹⁹ This ancient town was surrounded

with walls from an early period: the castle and abbey were built by the Birmingham family, and there are still considerable remains of the entire. During the government of Sir Henry Sidney, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, several new works and improvements were commenced; but they were destroyed by the *Mac-an-Earlas* in 1575, and the place remained almost deserted until the year 1584, when Robert Fowle, John Brown, and others of the former inhabitants, petitioned the queen's council in England for such encouragement as would enable them to bring over English artisans and tradesmen to settle in the town, to rebuild and improve it, and also to support sufficient force for its future protection. This petition, together with observations on each article by the privy council of Ireland, to whom it was referred, were of the following tenor:

The humble petition of Robert Fowle John Brown, Gent. with dyvers other associates answered and allowed.

1. Wheare they intend, with your lordships favorable lykyng, to carry into Ire-

proceedings they marched towards Galway, determined, if possible, to make it share the same fate; and, on the Sunday evening following, encamped in the suburbs. They immediately sent a priest to the gates, to request wine and other necessities, promising to do no injury if they were relieved: he was answered from within, that it was the ancient and established custom of the town, never to open their gates at night; and with this reply he departed: but the following morning another messenger arrived with a letter from O'Donnell himself, entreating victuals

land sondry laborers and artyficers for thenhabiting of the decaied town of Athenry, and making of severall comodities within Connaught; that they may have lycence, for thirty years, to transporte all souche comodities growing within that province, as hath not at any time heretofore ben usually transported, so as the same be put into worke, and wrought; **and** that all others be restrayned therein during the said terme, but souche as ether shalbe contributors to their first chardge, or by ther allowance teherunto admytted, in respect whearof, her majestie to have tehe twentieth parte for custome of that whiche shalbe so transported.

Thought very reasonable in all points.

2. That they might have souch landes as they have, or shall take, in ferme, to be manured for the provision and victualing of the said laborers and artyficers, free from all ccasse, chardge and imposition, paying her majesty 2d. for every Irish acre.

Her majesty is answered throughout the whole province, 2d. sterling for every Irish acre; yet for that this is an enterprise of charge, and must begyn with charge, it were not amisse to reduce to 2d. Irish the acre, so much ground as the gentlemen shall ferme to be manured for ther enterpryse. The other part of the article thought reasonable.

3. That if they can procure thinhabitants of the said provynce willingly to yeald to bear the charge of 30 or 40 horsemen, over and above the compositions already made, or by their industry encrease her majesty's revenues to that value, that they may have the said number of horsemen in pay, for the defence of the said tower of Athenry, and all other her majesty's services there, being the most fit place of the province for service, which they mean by God's grace to inhabit, and to finishe such good workes as the lord president of Wales began in his government of Ireland.

Thought very reasonable and necessary, and that the gentlemen are to have all due assistance to draw the people to bear that force.

4. And whereas there is neither lett nor law-day kept, or the people generally sworn in obedience towards her majesty, which were very meet and necessary, that it may please your lordships to grant your favors for the stywardship of the same,

with some convenyent fee out of such small time be altogether abolyshed.

To be considered how there may stywardes and leets be kept by such as the governor shall appoint. The grant to extend no farther than for her majesties own lands, and that it province in his general charge.

5. And further, that they may have authoritie of government among themselves, in form of a corporation for, the politique ordering of their affairs.

Thought very requisite.

6. In consideration of which grants they will, God willing, maintaine 200 stowt labourers and artyficers which shall be trained and furnished with armor and weapons, and always ready to suppress any rebellious attempts, and, after one year's setlying, shall serve for fourteen days at their owne proper costs and charges, once every year, if nede shall require.

The offer very commenable.

Mem. where the gentlemen have named Athenry only to be the place where they will set down and perform the works, in which poynt, in our opynions, they have too much restrained themselves, we wish that the scope were enlarged over all the province, namely, to chose their seat where they may find it; as it be no hindrance to her majestie, nor offence or wrong to any private person.—Rot. Pat. 26 Eliz.

Francis Walsingham.

The queen, accordingly, by privy signet, dated at Westminster, the 18th April. 1585, directed the lord deputy to "passe forthwith a boke, containing not only a confirmation of the old charter and preveleges of the said decaied town, but also a new grant to the full effect of the said petition; because," as she adds, "it will redounde not only to their private commoditie, but also to the benefit of us and of that our realm, espicalie of the province of Connaught."—It does not appear, however, that any new charter passed the great seal, but several buildings were erected, and many other improvements made, which were destroyed as above, in 1596. Since that time Athenry has been entirely neglected, and, although once esteemed of so much importance, it is at present reduced to the state of an inconsiderable village.

and other necessities for his men, for which he offered to pay, in ready money, whatever was demanded; but in case of refusal he threatened the town with immediate hostilities. The mayor and council assembled, and, after some deliberation, resolved upon returning an answer not only of refusal, but also of admonition and reproach. This answer they forthwith dispatched, upraiding O'Donnell, and the rest of his adherents, with breaking their allegiance to their natural prince, and wantonly destroying the country and goods of her majesty's loyal subjects; and finally gave them to understand, that unless they returned to their duty, reformed their evil courses, and made amends for all the damages they had occasioned, they neither could nor would afford them relief; and as to their threats, they held them at defiance. Enraged at this message, O'Donnell immediately set fire to several houses about the borders of the lake; and the wind happening to be in a north-east direction, full against that side of the town, the smoke hindered the inhabitants from perceiving the approach of the enemy, or preventing their design, until almost the entire of the east suburbs was in flames. He then assembled his forces on Fort-hill, then called the Abbey-hill; but as soon as they approached the side next the town, the great cannon was brought to bear on them from the walls, and they quickly retreated. An armed party then sallied from the great gate, and, having gained the height of the hill, the enemy fled before them, leaving behind several killed and wounded. They encamped that night about three miles distant, and the day following departed for the county of Mayo, burning every village in their way; amongst which, upwards of twenty, belonging to the town, were entirely destroyed.

The disorderly state of the province, and the vice and licentiousness of the people, about this time, were most lamentable. In the year 1600, they were described in the following forcible terms in an assembly of the citizens of Galway, which was convened for the purpose of counteracting the effects of those evils' "August 1. This day informacon being made and moved in open courte, by certain of the brethern, of the ymminent loss generally all the corporation doe daily sustain for want of the administration of justice in the counties and shires of the province abroad, by means of the obstinacie, wilful disobedience, lyinge and deceit of the country gentlemen and inhabitants, that by no means there can no remedy be had against them for the recovery of anie debt due, muche less of any robberies or spoiles; neverthelesse, upon the repair of them to this town of Galway, are so dayly supported and upholden by the mayor and his associats, that noe justice can be ministered upon them; the mayor ordinarily granting to every of them, so comeing, his worde and protection to retourne safe without any molestation; the country inhabitants, voide of all charitie, litle regardinge their duty to God, thereby making against the goods of the poor merchants." In order to remedy these disorders, it was resolved that no such protection as that complained of should thenceforth be granted by the mayor, or any other authority, to any of the inhabitants of the country.

At length arrived at the close of the sixteenth century, the reader now

enters upon a period wherein he shall find the town of Galway to have acted a very conspicuous part in the eventful history of the times. Whilst the nation was agitated by the formidable rebellion of Tyrone, the town remained firm in its allegiance to the queen; but now that alarming rumours of the Spanish invasion were daily afloat, government seems to have apprehended that here the first descent would be made, as the most convenient point of communication with the insurgents of the north and west. Accordingly, in the year 1600, the lord deputy, Mountjoy, caused the town to be put into a state of security, and furnished with men and arms; and, perceiving the advantageous position afforded by the hill on which the monastery of St. Augustine stood, he laid the foundation of a fort on that eminence, within two hundred yards of the walls, which completely commanded the town and harbour, and afterwards became one of the most considerable fortifications in the kingdom.

The building of these extensive works of defence was carried on with vigor. On the 10th of August, 1602, the lord deputy informed Mr. Secretary Cecil, that the fortifications of Galway were almost finished, and that it would be needful for the place to have four demi-cannons and four whole culverins, which he thought would make it of very great use against the Spaniards, if they should happen to land there, as he suspected, and that for this and other similar works it would be necessary to have some great ordnance.²⁰ On the 18th of November following his lordship set out on his journey for Connaught, his principal design being, "to view the town of Galway, and to consider how the descent of foreign enemies might best be prevented."—He kept Christmas in the town; and, judging it a place of great importance to be preserved from being possessed by any foreign enemy he gave directions to finish the fort, which from its situation, would so effectually command the haven, and defend the town from foreign invasion. While he remained, the O'Flaherties of Iar-Connaught, the Mac Dermotts of the Courlews, O'Connor Roe, and many others, came in and submitted.

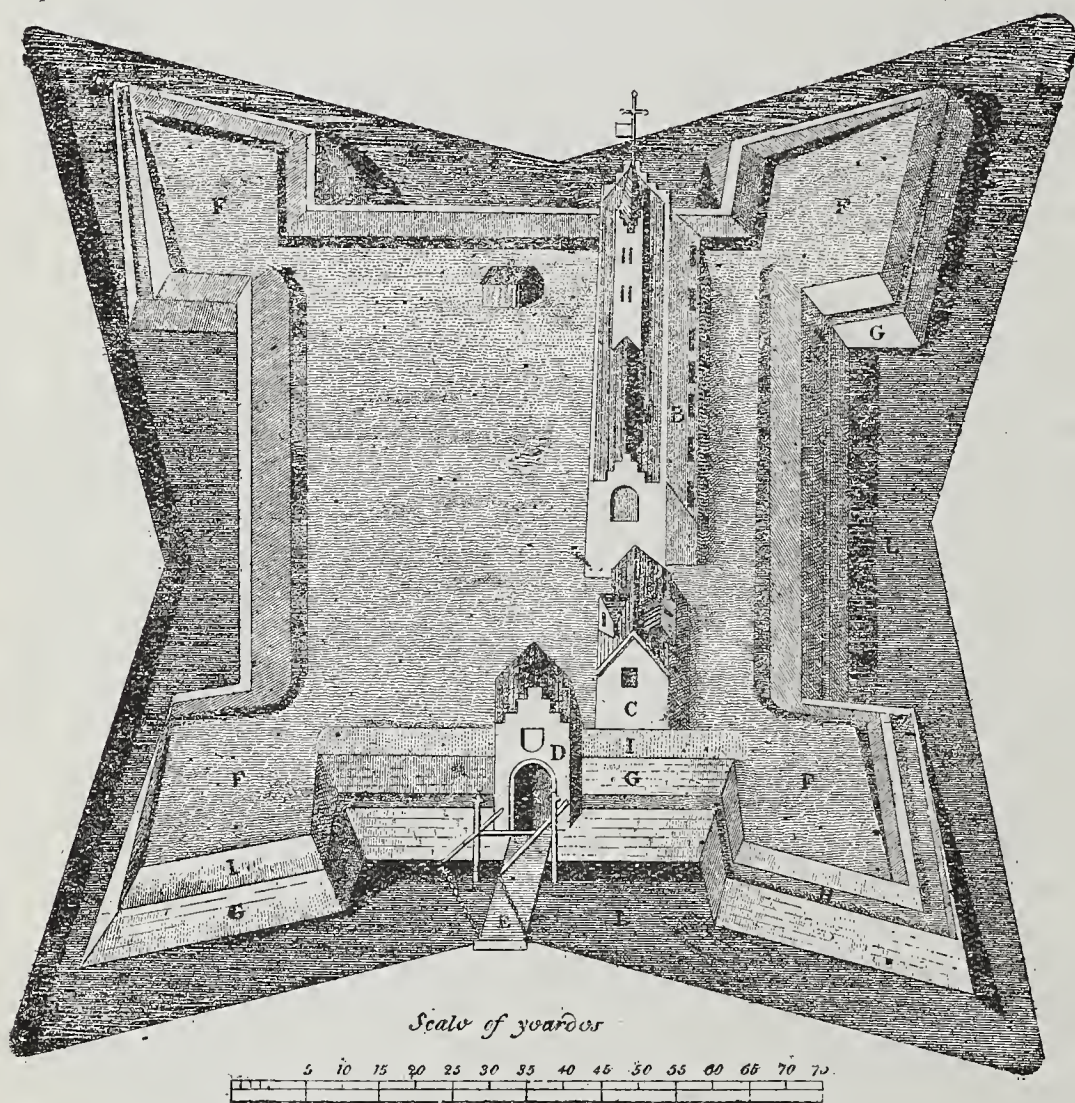
James I. was proclaimed here in April, 1603. Upon the accession of this monarch, the Irish, supposing him a Catholic, entertained hopes that their ancient religion would be no longer proscribed, and accordingly the principal cities and towns of the kingdom immediately declared for the open and uncontrolled confession of faith. The lord deputy made every exertion to suppress this rising spirit, and finally succeeded in putting it down. He issued particular orders to that effect to the magistrates of Galway, which were punctually attended to; and he was soon after informed by the mayor, "that howsoever he found no seditious inclination

²⁰ Moryson's Hist. Vol. II. p. 186.—In stand,) in so great awe, as they will not the same communication his lordship suddenly nor easily fall to their (i.e. the states the reasons for erecting these fortifications, and the great advantages Spaniards) party; and yet will they afterwards be such bridges to the countries all which would result from them. "I doubt about them, as they shall never be able to not," he says, "but these greater works rebel again." will keep the towns (near which they

*Ex Archivis. Trin.
Col. Dub.*

*Fac Simile of the
original*

THE FORT NEERE GALWAY



A. S^t Augustines Church

*B. Lodgings for Soldiers on
the side of the Church.*

*C. Lodgings for the Commander
and Officers.*

D. Gate House.

E. Draw Bridge.

F. Bulwarks.

*G. The lower wall 10½ feet high
of Stone.*

H. The passage bet. een the walls

*I. The upper or inner wall of Stone
18 feet high besides the parapet.*

*K. Vaulted Sallies through the rampier
into the lower works*

L. The Ditches.

in the citizens,²¹ yet, to prevent disorders in these mutinous times, the governor of the fort had given him some of his soldiers to assist his authority, whom he to that purpose had placed in the strongest castles of the city."

The fort being at length finished, Sir Thomas Rotheram, knight, was appointed governor, on 28th May, 1603. His patent recites that the king, as well for the punishment and reformation of his evil subjects, as for the defence of his good and loyal ones residing in the town of Galway, and St. Augustine's fort, near adjoining, thought it very necessary that some meet person should be appointed commander of the said fort, and of all such companies thereof, horse and foot, as were then, or should thereafter be sent to reside there; and, having conceived a good opinion of his valor, wisdom, and provident circumspection for the managing of causes of like effect and moment, appointed him commander of said foot and forces, with the rule and government of all persons residing in or repairing to the bounds and circuits of his said command, as well within liberties as without, of the town and harbour of Galway.²² Sir Thomas appears to have merited the high encomium contained in his patent: he governed the fort with unimpeachable conduct for a period of thirty-three years,²³ and was elected mayor of Galway in 1612, being the only instance in which that office was filled by any except a native of the town, or of its ancient names and families, for upwards of one hundred and seventy years.

Immediately after the accession of James, the corporation petitioned for a confirmation and extension of their privileges, which the king answered by letter under his own hand, to the earl of Devonshire, lord lieutenant, dated 20th December, 1603, stating that, "Although for some respects we thinke not fitt to enlarge any further liberties to them, than formerly they have had, yet wee are pleased that they shall have a confirmacon and renuinge of such privileges and liberties as by any former charters they doe hold."²⁴—This answer not being so favourable as was expected, they declined for the present suing out the charter, expecting a more seasonable opportunity;²⁵ which accordingly was supposed to have offered in 1608,

21 To take possession of the church, and establish the Roman Catholic religion within the town, as was done at the time in many other parts of the kingdom.

22 Rot. Pat. 1 Jac. I. 3 p. d. m. 30.

23 Sir Francis Willoughby, his successor, was appointed by the lord deputy, governor of the fort, pursuant to the king's command, by privy seal, dated Oatlands, July 5th. 1636, during pleasure, at 5s. per diem.—Rot. 12, 13 Car. I. R. 14.

24 Rot. Pat. 2 Jac. I. 3 p. d.

25 About this time Sir Arthur Chichester, the lord deputy, established a circuit for judges of assize in Connaught. They commenced in 1604, and, for many years, after, the assizes for the county of Galway were held alternately in Galway

and Loughrea. In 1680, the corporation petitioned the lord lieutenant and council, "that the assizes should be kept in the town of Galway, and to prevent the removing it to Loughrea."—Corp. Book, Lib. B. p. 109.—For a long time, before and after this period, the judges were entertained free of expense by the town, perhaps to induce them to hold the assize there. This was afterwards abridged to the payment of their lodgings; and on 21st September, 1771, it was ordered in common council, "that this corporation shall not for the future be at any expense for the judge's lodgings."—Corp. Book, Lib. I.—But this was repealed the 7th October following, and the expense, 10l. yearly, has been ever since defrayed by the town.

when they again petitioned, but with no better success than before, as appears by the king's letter, dated at Westminster, the 3d of March, in that year, and afterwards recited in the charter. Not discouraged at this disappointment, they immediately again renewed their solicitations, not only for a renewal and confirmation of all former privileges, but also that the town and liberties might be erected into a separate and distinct county; sheriffs appointed in place of bailiffs; and, in consideration of the great increase of mercantile transactions, that a guild of merchants of the staple might be incorporated.—Geoffry Lynch Fitz-Dominick and Patrick French Fitz-Robert were deputed to present this petition to the king in person; and, through the interference and interest of Rickard, then earl of Clanrickard, (who shortly before was appointed first lord president of Connaught,²⁶) their application proved successful. Accordingly, letters, signed by the privy council of England with the royal assent, were transmitted to the lord lieutenant of Ireland; in pursuance of which, by charter, dated 18th December, 1610, all the former privileges of the corporation were fully confirmed: and as the town of Drogheda was one entire county by itself, incorporate in fact and name, distinct and separate from the counties of Louth, Meath, and all other counties, so it was given and granted that the town of Galway, and all castles, messuages, rivers, rivulets, lands, tenements and other hereditaments whatsoever, lying and being within the space of *two miles* of every part of the said town, in a straight line, should, from thenceforth, for ever be one entire county of itself, distinct and separate from the county of Galway,²⁷ to be named and called the county of the

26 The king, in the privy seal for this appointment thus expresses himself: "For that we think it may make more for our service that the province of Connaught have a governor with certain title, as our province of Munster hath, our pleasure therefore is, that upon surrender of such letters patents as our right trusty and right well beloved cousin, the earl of Clanrickard, now hath for his charge there, you grant unto him such other letters patents, under our great seal there, with the title of president, in such form and manner as our president of Munster hath, except you shall see cause, by advice of our council there to alter any clauses thereof or to add unto it."—2 Jac. I. 3 p.—The patent is dated, Dublin, September 1, 1604.—2 Jac. I. 2 p. f. m. 49.

—Sir Oliver St. John, knight, and privy counsellor, was appointed vice-president under the earl; and on 9th June, 1615, Sir John King, knight, muster-master-general, and Sir Thomas Rotheram, were appointed, jointly and severally, to be his majesty's chief commissioner or commissioners in civil causes, with the council of the province, to administer civil justice to the subjects there, during the absence of the lord-president and vice-president.—Rot. 13 Jac. I. 1 p. f. m. 20.

1585, the entire province was divided into two great districts, called the counties of Connaught and Roscommon, whose sheriffs are mentioned in various records, as far back as the reign of Henry III. It would be a matter of more difficulty than utility, at the present day, to trace out the limits and extent of those two ancient divisions; but as it may be of some importance that the true boundaries of the county of Galway, as originally laid down, should be known, and as the town was comprehended within the county, until separated as above, the following abstract is taken from an inquest, held on oath at Galway, on the 11th of August, 1607, before Sir Anthony Sentleger, then master of the rolls, and Peter Palmer, second justice of the common pleas, in which its limits were accurately ascertained.

Boundaries of the County of Galway. "The county of Galway extendeth in length from the marsh of Meanagh-keogh, butting eastward upon the King's County unto Kanleama, beyond Bunowne, in Yearconaght, westward 60 miles or thereabouts, and in breadth, from the river or streame of Boyhe, butting southward on the cotunty of Clare to Lahagh-Stanton, (so called, for that a principal man of the Stantons was slayne in that place,) adjoininge to Clan-morrish, northward 37 miles or there

27 Before the distribution of Connaught into counties, by Sir John Perrott, in

town of Galway: that the site and precincts of the abbey of Saint Francis and Saint Augustine's fort, and the lands belonging to the fort, should be reserved and excluded from the county of the town of Galway, and be and remain within the county of Galway; that the judges of assize and gaol delivery might hold their sessions in said abbey, and the sheriffs of the county of Galway their county courts there. The mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, were incorporated by the name of mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty of the town. A guild of merchants of the staple, consisting of one mayor, two constables, and such number of merchants as they should think most expedient, was incorporated. Ulick Lynch was appointed the first mayor, and Walter Martin and Peter Lynch the first constables. The corporation was empowered to have and use several ensigns and ornaments for the honor and dignity of the town; and the mayor, for the time being, to have a sword borne before him, as a mark of the very great eminence of the office of mayor of the town, and of the authority thereto belonging.

abouts.—The boundes or meares of the saide county begynieth beyond the river of Sheanon eastward, at the said marishe of Meanagh-keogh which devideth the greate woods of Killiecorrie, whereof the woods westwards of the saide marishe are included within the boundes of the county of Gallwaie, and the woods eastward of the marishe are of the King's County; and so boundinge forward to the river of Brosnagh, and reyteynge the course of the streame, it falleth into the river of Sheanon; and, includinge, the islands of Inchenegal and Inyshmore, it extendeth forward by easte, the islands of Inishfadda, as the course of the streame runneth: from thence, includinge the islands of Portklyely, it goeth dyrectly to Dirremcegane, and, includinge the islands of Illanmore and Inishealdry, it runneth through Loughdirgirt, and so to the river of Boyhe, and holdinge that river against the streame to Loghetory.—The earle of Thomond doeth challendge a towne lande, consistinge of fower quarters, called Ballynrowand, Killratyry and Ballyshanoyhe, which is included within theise boundes, to be parcell of the county of Clare that beinge beyond the memory of man held by the earles of Clanrickarde, and by them sett for rent to the Clanshides, a cepte of the Mc. Ne Marres, who, upon discontent, came thither to dwell. These fower quarters are founde and presented, upon the makinge of the composicon, to be parcell and belonging to the county of Galway.—Reteyning the meare from Loghetory to Aham-Imaylie, it extendeth to Ahaneglayssabiry and so to Loghane-nebrillybuy, and from thence southward of Aylevick-calanyne and Dirreodderavirn, and so to Lohgilky and Dirrelahane, and from thence to the meare of Killincapaffarrell it reacheth farther to the togher of Gortefobbell, and so to Dromyowre and Knowdinge, the direct meare to Mullynecarhine, and along the streamo to Owynnecarhyme, then to Capper-Idonill; and, reteynge the meare of Ballaghgrany and Ayleneffayagh, it butteth forward to the streame of Lowghed, (from which the place of Ballalowghed taketh its name,) and so forward to Bellacrenan, then to Muckany; from thence to Tobberelynedowna and Beallamed-dame, it extendeth to Beallaghaghill, and butting to Rahatorp and Cleynegall, excluding Money-Yeffane it reteyneth a certeyne meare called Cappacashell, and butinge forward to Beallafadud, and devydinge the rowe from Lochcalgie, it reacheth to Killiny and Dowgott; from thence up to the mountayne of Funchamore, and holding the very topp of that mountayne, butteth forward to Sleyewcarne and to Tobberlyhe, from thence to Carraghmore, and so it falleth into the baye of Gallwaye; and from thence, including the islands of Aran, it extendeth as the ocean boundeth upon the west of Yearconnaght, and forward aboute the shore to Ballasse; and, cominge in at the north side of the mountayne of Salcoyge, it extendeth to Bunygowsaghmore, and so falleth into Lohgmaske, and cominge out of the lough, it reteyneth the meare to the river of Conge, which devyded the demaynes of Conge from the barony of Ross, parcell of the said county.—This barrony of Ross is alledged to have been included in the county of Mayo, upon the reducinge of Conaught into shire ground; but after, upon better consideracon, for that the same was subjecte to the cuttinge and spendinge of the O'Flaherties, upon whom the Joyes (who inhabited the said barony) depended, and weare alwaies contributory with the O'Flaherties, and did usually yield them risings out to all hostings, roods and journeys for the princes

About this time a company, formed of the principal merchants, for the purpose of providing more spacious and convenient accommodations for the increase of shipping and commerce, commenced several new improvements along the quays and harbour, and by fort-hill and the fosse which surrounded the town wall: but, though they were bound to complete these undertakings within a limited time, the works gradually declined, and were never brought to perfection. It is probable, however, that they were at first suspended in consequence of a destructive fire that broke out in the east suburbs on the 1st of May, 1619, occasioned by a musket shot unintentionally fired by some young men, amidst diversions usual on that day, which fell on the thatch of a house, and spreading, raged so violently, that it threatened the entire town with destruction. Tradition informs us that, shortly prior to this period, a Dutch colony, consisting of forty families, induced by the situation of Galway, proposed to emigrate from Holland and settle in or near the town; that they offered the corporation a sum which would be equivalent to 35,000*l.* at the present day, for the unfinished works above alluded to, and the adjacent ground, on which they were to erect,

service, and withall that the said barony of Rosse was often dubly charged, as being supposed to be parte of eyther county, which they, not beinge able to endure, made complaint to the lord deputie, and thereupon obtayned several orders from Sir Henry Sidney, and Sir William Fitz-Williams, in tyme of their governments, to be united and joyned to the saide county of Gallwaye, within which, at the makinge of the composicon, it was founde and presented by inquest of office to be included, and so a yearly rent-chardge of 5*s.* sterling granted out of every quarter of free-holders lands in the saide barony, unto Sir Murrough O'Flaherty, knight, late detceased; and with all, it is manifest that the inhabitants of the saide doe at this instant appeare, and give there attendance to the cessions of the county of Gallwaie, and not at Mayo, and that the sheriffe and collectors of the county of Galwaie doe, by themselves, their bailiffes and under officers, execute all matters concerninge their chardges in the same, as beinge within the limits of their jurisdictions. All which, with many other reasons which we omitt for brevities sake, movinge us to include the saide barrony within the boundes of the county of Gallwaye, have so founde and laied it downe accordingly.—And now, returninge where wee left, we followe the said meare from the river of Conge into Loghe-Corb, includinge Inchevicketryer, and from thence to Carra-Inridery there that goeth out of the loghe, on the east side, into the river of Owen-Dufferush, and so to Moyne, and from thence agaynste the streame to Srowher, then to Clowne-sheana; and, reteyninge the meare to Cleyaghavallin, it reacheth to to Owen-negomonagh and Lahagstanton; and, falinge into the river of Down Mc. Knyny, it extended out of the same to Glaysse-derry-Cowsan, then to Lahany-dolloghtane: from thence it streateheth to Bare-clown-arkane, then to Corravicketangert, and, holdinge the bound on the west of Gurtynelyme, it leadeth to Iskermore and Lahagh-Clownenaskragh; and, butinge forward to Beallanaghdeige, excluding the woods of Aghelogh, (which is parte of the county of Roscommon,) it reacheth to Veneree-Roe on the north side, as far as Lahagh-Coggny; and, includinge the wood of Dowffederry, it extendeth to Poillnemoynga and so falleth into the river Sucke, (which boundeth that part of the county of Gallwaye from the county of Roscommon;) and as the river runneth to the bridge of Beallamoe, thence alonge the streame to Downomon, where it comes out of the said river into the brooke or streae of Owynbegg, and from thence to Kyelmony, then alonge the wood of Cregg, excludinge Aghagowre and Ahogadd, it extendeth forward to Monyne Cornecayske, and so alonge the bogg to the saide river of Sucke, agayne at Beallagadd; and so, reteyninge the streame, it goeth under the middle arche of the middle bridge of Ballinasloe, and from thence with the course of the streame it falleth into the Sheanon, and goinge out of the same into the river of Brossnagh (there are two Brossnaghs, this which meareth Sir John M'Coghlan's country on that side from the barony of Longford, and the other which falleth between Ormond and the south side of the said barony of Longford into the Sheanon,) and so from the Brossnagh of Macoghlan's country to Bungowlane, and so to Meanaghbegg, where wee began.—Original Inq. Rolls Office, Chancery.

within fifteen years, several dwelling-houses and extensive stores, intending also to take in a considerable portion of the strand; but that, through motives of mercantile jealousy, these proposals were rejected.—A circumstance connected with this affair is also handed down, which, though bordering on the incredulous, is somewhat curious. The Hollanders, as the story goes, contracted to cover over as much ground, as they wished to obtain, with a certain species of silver coin, (but of what dimensions or value are forgotten) and the space they are said to have marked out would have required to the amount already mentioned to purchase it. This glittering proposal was at first agreed to by the town's-people; but, upon further reflection, they prudently considered that these industrious settlers might monopolize all their trade, and injure the town, and they accordingly had recourse to a most ingenious artifice to get rid of the agreement when it came to be carried into effect, by insisting that the ground was to be covered with the coin, placed not on the sides, as has been supposed, but close on the edges. This unexpected turn created so material a difference, that it soon put an end to a treaty, which, if the entire be not, as is most likely, a fable, might have been of service to the country.

But, passing over this and other idle and worthless tales of tradition, for more useful and authentic information, it appears that the town, county of the town, and county of Galway, were, in 1616, at the instance of the earl of Clanrickard, erected into a separate jurisdiction, entirely independent of the presidency of the province—a circumstance which afterwards proved of the utmost consequence towards preserving the peace and tranquillity of this part of the kingdom. Upon his resignation of the presidency, his lordship was appointed governor or lieutenant of the town and county, and of the inhabitants there resident, as fully as he had enjoyed and exercised the same as lord president of the province.²⁸ The lord deputy, Falkland, came to Galway in 1625, and was most honorably received. His lordship knighted Sir Richard Blake Fitz-Robert, and Sir Henry Lynch, bart. and munificently bestowed 300*l.* towards building a college, and 500*l.* to portion and apprentice several orphan children of the town. He particularly attended to the state of the fortifications, and directed a fort to be built on the lands of Ballymanagh, beyond the west bridge, the foundation of which was laid, and a good part of the walls built in 1625; and, at the same time, all the gates of the town were repaired at the expense of the corporation.

The appointment of the earl of Clanrickard to the government of the

Governors of Galway.

28 Riecard, earl of Clanrickard, appointed by privy seal, dated Greenwich, 2d June, 1616; patent dated Dublin, July 12th, 1616, during pleasure, with a power to appoint a deputy lieutenant; and, pursuant to the said privy seal, an annuity, pension, stipend or fee of 10*s.* English a day for life, out of the revenues of said

county and town, was granted to his lordship by patent, dated 29th June, 1616, and the like fee of 10*s.* a day to his son and heir, Ulick Bourke, baron of Dunkellin, for life, after his father's death.—Rot. Pat. 14 Jac. I. 2 p. d. m. 8, 9. Geoffrey Osbaldeston, Esq. was made deputy during the earl's absence in England, September 4th, 1621.—19 Jac. I. 2 p. d.

town having terminated on the death of King James, it was renewed by his successor;²⁹ the preamble to whose grant states, that the king, taking into consideration the many and singular good proofs of his lordship's fidelity and sincere affection to the crown, and conceiving good hopes of the like in his son Ulick, lord Dunkellin, afterwards marquis of Clanricarde, (which it will be found were amply realized,) and the better to secure his subjects of the said county and town of Galway, appointed them to the government thereof during their respective lives.

²⁹Privy seal, dated Whitehall, May 20th, 1625; patent, Dublin, November 7th, same year. They had power to appoint a deputy during their absence; they and their deputies successively, from time to time, to be chief in the commissions of Oyer and Terminer with the justices of assize, in their circuits, within the said county and town; to be chief leader of the army therein, in the absence of the chief governor of Ireland, with power to raise and muster the county and town as should be thought expedient, and to have the command (as they had before) of the company of fifty foot, then in pay, by the establishments belonging to himself, his officers and company.—Rot. Pat. 1 Car. I. 2 p. f. m. 20.

His lordship being still resident in England, appointed Sir Thomas Rotheram deputy lieutenant during pleasure, dated 24th April, 1627, (14th should be) signed Clanrickard.—Rot. 3 Car. I. 1 p. f.

By two commissions, dated 20th July, 1627, the earl, and Sir Thomas Rotheram his deputy, and the privy council of Ireland, any two or more of them, (the earl or Sir Thomas to be always one,) were appointed to execute the civil and martial government of the county and town—3 Car. I. 2 p. f.—and by another commission, dated 28th February, 1628, both the council and martial government were committed to them—4 Car. I. 5 p. d.—and by commission, dated 11th March, 1635, Ulick, earl of Clanrickard, Sir Thomas Rotheram, his deputy or lieutenant, the privy council and others, were appointed commissioners of musters and array, to treat with rebels, &c.—11 Car. I. 1 p. d.

This separate jurisdiction, or, according to lord Strafford, "cantoned government," died with his lordship in 1656, and the town and county were united to the presidency of the province, in 1661, under lord Mountrath.

Presidents of Connaught.

Upon the resignation of the earl of Clanrickard, in 1616, Sir Charles Wilmot, knight, viscount Wilmot of Athlone, was appointed president of the province during pleasure, by privy seal, dated Greenwich, 3d June, 1616, patent, Dublin, September 20th, 1616—14 Jac. I.—Out of the patent were excepted the government of the county of the town of Galway, and of the county of Galway, so

long as the king should continue the earl of Clanrickard therein.—1620, May 17th. the lord deputy appointed Sir Charles Coote, knight, vice-president, in the absence or during the pleasure of Wilmot, and, so long as he continued in that office, chief leader of the army in that province, (the county and county of the town of Galway excepted.) The subsequent presidents of Connaught were as follows, viz.

1625, April 16th.—Patent continuing Sir Charles Wilmot (the former having determined by King James's death) and Sir Roger Jones, vice-presidents.

1630.—Sir Charles Wilmot, and Roger, lord viscount Ranelagh, appointed during their lives.—Rot. Pat. 6 Car. II. 3 p.

1644, April.—Thomas viscount Dillon, and Henry viscount Wilmot, and the bishop of Atterbury, in England, appointed, vice Wilmot and Ranelagh, deceased.—Rot. 12 Car. II.

1645, May 12th.—Sir Charles Coote, knight and bart. of Mountrath, appointed by patent of this date, at Westminster.—Cromwell's Roll, 1655, first part, m. 5.

1660, July 30th.—The same continued by patent, of this date, at Westminster.—Rot. 12 Car. II.

1661, March 28th.—The same appointed president for life, under the title of Charles, earl of Mountrath. In this grant the county, county of the town, and citadel of Galway, were annexed to the presidency of the province.—Rot. 13 Car. II.

—December 24th.—John, lord Berkeley, appointed by privy seal, of this date, (Mountrath, deceased) for life; patent dated January 13th, 1661; Sir Maurice Eustace was his vice-president.—Ro. 13 Car. II. 1 p.

1662, March 25th.—The same appointed chief leader of the army within the province in the absence of the chief governor of Ireland, for the prosecution of any rebels or traitors and their adherents.—Rot. 4 Car. II. 1 p.

1666, April 2.—John, lord Berkeley, and John, lord Kingston, appointed by patent of this date, (former patent surrendered.)—Rot. 18 Car. II.

—May 5th.—John, lord Kingston, appointed sole governor, by patent of this date, last patent surrendered; Thomas Caulfield, Esq. was then vice-president.—Same Roll.—Lord Kingston was the last governor of Connaught.

The improvement of the town and environs still continued to occupy the attention of the corporation. In 1630, the square plot, at the green, outside the east gate, (since called Meyrick-square,) was set apart for the purpose of public amusement and recreation: it was inclosed with wooden rails, and handsomely planted round with ash trees, many of which were standing within the memory of persons yet living. The highway within the liberties, along Castle-Gar, was soon after completed: the new works at Barachalla and about the great gate, which were left unfinished in the mayoralty of Sir Valentine Blake, were likewise resumed and perfected. In the interior of the town, the main street, from the great gate to the cross, was paved, and several other valuable improvements were made,³⁰ which at length rendered the town one of the most perfect in the kingdom, possessing every convenience which could tend to promote the health or increase the comforts of the inhabitants.

Sir Thomas Wentworth, (afterwards earl of Strafford,) lord deputy of Ireland, visited the town in 1634: his entry was splendid, and his reception equally correspondent. During his stay he resided in the mansion-house of Sir Richard Blake, for whose polite attention he made the most grateful acknowledgments. He conferred the honor of knighthood on Sir Dominick Brown, the mayor; and, having expressed much satisfaction at the highly finished state and opulent appearance of the town, his lordship departed for Dublin.

For the first fifteen years of the reign of Charles I. a time of profound peace in Ireland, there are but few particulars related of the town; but, during the turbulent remainder of the life of that unhappy monarch, it took a leading part in the political transactions of the times, invariably manifesting the greatest zeal, loyalty and affection in his cause. The only occurrence worthy of remark during the former period, in addition to those already detailed, is the celebrated tyrannical proceeding of lord Strafford against the sheriff and jury of the county of Galway. This able but despotic ruler having formed the unjust and impolitic design of subverting the title to every estate in Connaught, by shewing that the province, notwithstanding all prior grants to individuals, was entirely vested in the crown, and still at its disposal, caused separate commissions to issue on the 15th of June, 1635, directed to certain commissioners, who were to inquire, by the oaths of a jury, what estate, right or title, the king, or any of his progenitors, had to every county in the province. Leitrim having surrendered without trial,

³⁰ In 1637, the east tower gate was built, and the town clock erected at the expense of the corporation. On 10th May, 1639, it was ordered in council, "that, at the common charge of this corporation, all grants and gifts, under their common seal, of the shops near or at the market thereof, shall be bought; the same, and all the places of the said market that side, as far as the stonewall there, which extends itself to the way into our parish church of Saint Nicholas, be pulled down, and soe all the same to be reduced into a strong sufficient stone house, covered with slate, and to be under-propped with good stone pillars, whereby way thro' it shall be to the said church, as formerly it hath been and the upper parts to be made a fair common-hall or towlsel, with convenient chambers for the common counsell and towne clerke, for the safe keeping of all the towne records and writings.—Corporation Book, Lib. A.—This building was finished in 1704.

the first inquiry was held at Boyle, in Roscommon, on 10th July following, when the jury found the king's title without scruple. This servile example was followed in Sligo, where the trial was held on 20th of the same month, and in Mayo, where it took place at Ballinrobe, on the 31st;³¹ but when they came to Galway their progress was stopped, and this arbitrary measure met with the most determined and effectual opposition from the gentlemen of the county, whose independent spirit, strict adherence to truth and justice, and conscientious discharge of their duty, on this occasion, deserve to be for ever commemorated. The trial came on at Portumna castle, where, notwithstanding the presence of the local deputy himself, who sat on the bench, and the many specious arguments made use of by council, to induce the jury to find the king's title, they unanimously found against it. His lordship, violently enraged at this decision, immediately put the sheriff, Mr. Martin Darcy, of the family of Kiltolla, and the jury under arrest, had them brought close prisoners to Dublin, and there tried before himself in the castle chamber. "We bethought ourselves," says he, "of a course to vindicate his majesty's honor and justice, not only against the persons of the jurors, but against the sheriff, for returning so insufficient, indeed we conceived so packed, a jury, and therefore we fine the sheriff in 1000l. to his majesty, the jurors in 4000l. each, and to be imprisoned until the fines should be paid, and until they should acknowledge their offence in court upon their knees."³²—The jurors petitioned to be discharged, but were refused, except upon condition of their making a public acknowledgment that they committed not only an error in judgment but even actual perjury in their verdict, terms which they disdainfully rejected. The sheriff died in prison, owing to severe treatment,³³ and the jury were most cruelly used, until, after suffering all the rigors of confinement, their fines were reduced, and themselves released, at the solicitation of the earl of Clanricarde.³⁴

The lord deputy, still determined to carry his point, again caused two further commissions to issue; the one, to find the king's title to the county; and the other, to the county of the town of Galway. The commissioners met at St. Francis's abbey, on the 5th of April, 1637, when the present county jury, terrified at the example made of the former, was induced to

³¹ The inquisitions taken on this occasion, and afterwards in 1637, remain of record in the Rolls Office, Dublin. They are very voluminous, and contain amongst other things, the names of all the lands, and principal proprietors in the several counties, at the time.

³² State Letters.

³³ The lord deputy, in a letter to Christopher Wandesford, Esq. master of the rolls, from London, 25th July, 1636, expresses himself on this occurrence in the following unfeeling manner:—"I am full of belief they will lay Darcy the sheriffe's death to me. My arrows are cruck that wound so mortally; but I should be more

sorry the king should lose his fine; therefore I pray you consult it thorowly with the judges."—Id.

³⁴ Carte.—The following extract, from the grievances voted "real" by the commons, towards the end of the Strafford administration, has been supposed, with every probability to allude to this case of the Galway jury, viz.—"That jurors, who gave their verdict according to their consciences, were censured in the castle chamber, in great fines, sometimes pillored, with loss of ears, and bored thro' the tongue, and sometimes marked in the forehead with an iron, with other infamous punishments."—Curry.

find for the crown, as did the jury of the county of the town the day after, in the tholsell hall.³⁵ Upon the return of these findings, the county was planted at a double rate, and the natives lost one-half of their lands, whereas the other less refractory counties lost but one-fourth. Thus terminated, through the influence of power, this illegal proceeding, for which, with other arbitrary measures resorted to in England, and during his government here, the ill-fated Strafford afterwards lost his head; but its injurious effects, without benefiting the crown, were lasting and considerable. Irritated beyond measure at so glaring an act of injustice openly committed against them, after so many royal assurances in their favour, the gentlemen of the county loudly proclaimed their discontent, and fixed resolution to embrace any opportunity which might offer to be revenged; and of the reality of their determination, the fatal events, which soon after took place, afforded melancholy proof.

35 The following extract from this memorable record will be found not undeserving of perusal.—The inquiry was held at the tholsel, on the 6th of April. 1637.

Presiding Commissioners.

Lord Ranelagh, president of Connaught.

The archbishop of Tuam.

Robert, bishop of Elphin.

Sir Charles Coote.

James Barry, second baron of the Exchequer.

James Donnellan, chief justice of Connaught.

Sir Francis Willoughby.

Sir Edward Povey.

Anthony Dopping, Esq.

Jurors.

Sir Dominick Browne, of Galway, knight.

Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Marcus, alderman

Geoffrey Martin, do.

George Martin, do.

Marcus Lynch Fitz-Christopher do.

John Bodkin Fitz-Dominick, do.

Francis Blake Fitz-Valentine, Esq.

Nicholas Blake Fitz-Robert, Esq.

John Blake Fitz-Nicholas, Burgess.

Walter Blake Fitz-Arthur, do.

Edmond Kirwan Fitz-Patrick, Burgess.

Alexander Browne Fitz-Dominick, do.

Michael Lynch-Fitz-Stephen, do.

Nicholas Blake Fitz-Anthony, do.

Walter Browne Fitz-Thomas, do.

Stephen Martin Fitz-Francis, do.

Jasper French Fitz-Andrew, do.

Thomas Butler, do.

The jury were directed to inquire "what estate, right or title the king, or any of his progenitors, had or of right ought to have had, in and to the whole territory of Galway;" and accordingly found that the county of the town of Galway was at all times part of the dominion or province of Connaught, and that the province, in the reign of Henry III. and long before, contained thirty cantreds of land; that Henry III. by letters patent, dated at

Westminster, 21st December, 1226, granted twenty-five cantreds, out of the thirty, to Richard de Burgo, upon whose death Walter, otherwise Raymond, his son and heir, entered into possession. Upon his death Richard de Burgo, lord of Connaught, his son and heir, entered into possession; upon whose death, John, his son and successor, entered into possession, and after him William, earl of Ulster and lord of Connaught, his son and heir, became possessed, upon whose death Elizabeth, his only daughter and heiress, entered into possession. That she married Lionel, duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward III. who, in her right, became Earl of Ulster and lord of Connaught. That upon their death Philippa, their only daughter and heiress, entered into possession; that she married Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, and lord of Trim, who, in her right, became earl of Ulster and lord of Connaught. That, upon their death, Roger, earl of March and lord of Trim, their son and heir, entered into possession, upon whose death they descended to Anne Mortimer, his only daughter and heiress, who married Richard, duke of Cambridge, who, in her right, became earl of Ulster and lord of Connaught. That, upon their death, Richard, duke of York, earl of Ulster and lord of Connaught, their son and heir, entered into possession, and that King Edward IV. was his son and heir.

That Henry III. being seized of the five remaining cantreds, not originally granted to Richard de Burgo, they descended to Edward I. his son and from him, through the successive kings of England, to Edward IV.

That Edward IV. being thus seized of the entire thirty cantreds they descended to Edward V. his son, and from him to Lady Elizabeth, his sister and heiress, who married Henry VII. That by an act of parliament, made before Sir Edward Poyning, at Drogheda, 10th Henry VII.

Before entering into a detail of the momentous transactions which immediately follow, it may not be uninteresting to the reader to dwell a little on the state of the town at this period. By the preceding facts, gleaned, with much labor, from the generally imperfect materials which, at this distance, have been spared by the hand of time, it appears that the town of Galway was esteemed the most distinguished of any in the kingdom for wealth and trade, and that it ranked amongst the most considerable for strength and population. The causes which gradually led to the extraordinary change, from its original state of comparative insignificance, appear to have been its well regulated and increasing commerce for the three preceding centuries; its advantageous situation; but, above all, the enterprising spirit and tried integrity of its inhabitants, which appeared on many occasions, and which are satisfactorily testified by various records. The extent of its commerce, and that at very remote periods of time, has been proved by indubitable authority; and its excellent situation needs only inspection to be convinced of the advantages which must have been derived from it. The town, though early incorporated and governed principally by its merchants, was surrounded by a poor country, and persecuted natives, (with whom "the settlers," as they were called, were in a continual state of hostility,) and could consequently derive but few materials for export, or means of industry, from its local situation. The inhabitants, therefore, were obliged to have recourse to distant parts of the kingdom: and by becoming, in fact, the home-importers of the produce of France, Spain and England, and by exchanging the commodities of one country for those of another, the town gradually arrived to its present state of prosperity, while the country in its neighbourhood was immersed in poverty, wretchedness and vice. This opulence, however, was now at its height; henceforth it continued to decline, and gradually sunk almost to nothing, in which condition it continues at the present day. The reader will not be here detained by an investigation of the causes of this decay; it will be reserved for another place, in order to proceed without further interruption to the following chapter.

reciting that the earldoms of March and Ulster and the lordships of Trim and Connaught were annexed to the crown, and that several records, rolls and inquisitions relating to them, were taken out of the treasury of Trim and embezzled, it was enacted that it should be lawful for the king, Henry VII. to enter into all the said lands and lordships. That upon his death Henry VIII. his son, was seized in right of his crown, of the thirty cantreds. They then found that Henry VIII. exercised his right by granting, by letters patent, to Janet and Stephen Lynch, the fishings of the river of Galway, which were then enjoyed thereunder. They found his charter to the town, his death; Edward VI. his suc-

cessor, his charter, erecting the church into a collegiate; his death, and Elizabeth, his successor, her charter, and the grant from her to the corporation, dated 11th September, in the twentieth year of her reign; her death, and James I. her successor, his charter and death; and Charles I. his successor, who they found was, on the day of the taking of said inquisition, seized in fee, in right of his crown, of the said thirty cantreds, and of and in the said entire province or dominion of Connaught: and they found that the county of the town of Galway contained, by estimation, thirty-two quarters of free and chargeable land.—Crig. Inq. Rolls Office.

CHAP. V.

FROM 1641 TO THE RESTORATION OF CHARLES II. 1660.

Opulence of Galway at the commencement of the Irish Rebellion, 23d October, 1641—Report of Sir Francis Willoughby, governor of St Augustine's fort, near Galway, on that event—The care of the earl of Clanricarde to secure the peace of the county—Loyal resolutions of the town—Disputes with the fort—Massacre at Shruel—Revolt of the town, and siege of the fort—The fort relieved, and the town submits to the earl of Clanricarde—Violent proceedings of the governor of the fort—He bombards the town—Lord Forbes arrives with a fleet in the bay—Besieges the town—His barbarous conduct—The fort besieged, taken and demolished—The town declares in favour of the Irish, and against the parliament—Persists in its loyalty to the king—Several fortifications built—Tumults in the town occasioned by the pope's nuncio on the question of the cessation—Compelled at length to proclaim it—The nuncio departs from Galway—The town advances money to the state—Grateful acknowledgments of Charles II.—Dreadful plague in the town—Marquis of Ormond takes shipping in Galway, and leaves the kingdom—Negociations with the duke of Lorraine—His ambassador arrives in Galway—The town besieged by the parliamentary forces under Sir Charles Coote—Its strenuous defence and final surrender—The plague rages—Cruel proceedings against the inhabitants—Licentiousness of the soldiery—Unjust measures of the rulers in Dublin, contrary to the articles of surrender—The corporation new modelled—The ancient inhabitants turned out of the town, and the houses destroyed—Plans of the government relative to Galway—Lands and houses valued and sold—Total decay of the town at the time of the Restoration.

A period is now arrived, which will be for ever memorable in the history of Ireland, and in the transactions of which our town acted a very conspicuous part. Already, for upwards of sixty years, since the troubles raised by the *Mac-an-Earlas* were appeased, Galway enjoyed peace and tranquility under the rule of its own magistrates. Warmly attached to the ancient religion of the land, firm in its allegiance to the crown, and obedient to the laws, it had arisen to an eminent degree of respectability, wealth and national consequence, when the never to be sufficiently lamented rebellion, or civil war, broke out in Ireland, on the 23d of October, 1641.

Sir Francis Willoughby, who was then governor of St. Augustine's fort, near Galway, (which had been thoroughly repaired at considerable expense, in 1636, and rendered one of the most complete fortifications in the kingdom,) in the month of October, 1641, departed for Dublin, leaving the fort, with two companies, under the command of his son, captain Anthony Willoughby. He arrived there on the night of the 22d, and stated, in council, that neither at Galway, nor all the way from thence, did he observe

the least disposition in any of the inhabitants to rise; nor did he entertain any suspicion for the safety of his own person: and yet, had the design of an insurrection been general, he conceived the rebels might have thought the seizing of him of some advantage towards gaining possession of that important fortress.³⁶

Ulick, the fifth earl of Clanricarde, governor, for life, of the town and county of Galway, having fortunately returned to Ireland in the summer of 1641, was then at his castle of Portumna.³⁷ As soon as he heard of the troubles, he took every precaution for the security of the county. On the 28th October he dispatched messengers to Galway, to Sir Richard Blake, with an account of the breaking out of the rebellion, and directions that the town should be most strict and vigilant in its watch and guards. This information was immediately communicated to the mayor and council: arms and ammunition, with which they were but badly provided, were supplied: orders were issued to strengthen the town gates where they were weak and defective, and the guards and watches were doubled. On the 6th of November his lordship arrived; he remained two days, during which time he put the town and fort in the best possible posture of defence. augmented the two companies of the latter to two hundred men, and directed the mayor and corporation to furnish it with provisions, with which it was but indifferently stored; and, to provide for his own company in Loughrea, he took out of the store-house one hundred firelocks and as many pikes; but more than half of these, upon trial, was found unserviceable. The consternation of the town was considerably increased by the archbishop of Tuam deserting his castle, and flying for refuge to the fort, and the subsequent treacherous surprisal of lord Clanricarde's castle of Aghnenure, in Iar-Connaught, by young Morough-na-dubh O'Flaherty. On the 11th, a general assembly was convened in the tholsel; and it was, amongst other things, unanimously resolved: "that to the last man the said town of Galway would lose their blood and lives in his majesty's service, in the defence, and for the safety of the said fort and town." The fort was furnished with one hundred pecks of wheat, fifty pounds worth of timber and other necessaries, all which were to be paid for upon the restoration of tranquility in the kingdom.

Notwithstanding these exertions, some misunderstanding interrupted the harmony which hitherto subsisted between the fort and the town.

³⁶ Clogher MSS. Trin. Col. Dub.

³⁷ That the reader may become acquainted with the character of this truly great man, it is given in the words of the biographer of the duke of Ormond, who, in this instance, was particularly just, correct and impartial.—"He was a man of great piety and strict virtue, regular in his devotion, exemplary in his life, and considerate in all his actions. His natural parts were very good, much improved by study, observation and reflection; but whatever were the accom-

plishments of his head, the perfections of his heart were still more eminent. In a word, he was truly wise, truly good, and truly honourable, and ought to be conveyed down to posterity as one of the most perfect and rarest patterns of integrity, loyalty, constancy, virtue and honour, that the age he lived in, or any other, has produced."—Carte, Vol. 1, p. 212.—His lordship was a Catholic peer of England and Ireland.—Vide his Memoirs, London, 1757, fol.

Captain Willoughby, who was a young and unexperienced man, of hot and ungovernable temper, began to conduct himself in the most rash and violent manner towards the townsmen, who, on their part, were not without a large portion of pride, and particularly piqued themselves on entertaining high notions of honor. With these dispositions, on both sides, disputes were inevitable. Willoughby, on some trifling or pretended occasions, imprisoned some of the inhabitants, and placed guards of musketeers on their goods and ships; and the town, exasperated at those proceedings, seized and imprisoned some soldiers belonging to the fort. At this juncture the earl of Clanricarde hastened to Galway, and with difficulty prevailed on the town to furnish the fort with supplies, which they had before refused to do without ready money. He remained in the town from the 5th to the 11th of February, and from the 1st to the middle of March;³⁸ and, so far succeeded in composing those unhappy differences, the mayor and corporation, on the 13th, signed a declaration, wherein they stated, "the fast fidelity of their ancestors to the crown of England, and how far this ancient colony hath been trusted and beloved by the kings successively, and in what happy condition and prosperity they lived under their powerful protection." They then declared their allegiance and determination, at the hazard of their lives, lands and goods, to preserve the town in obedience, to defend his majesty to the utmost of their power and contribute for the mutual defence of the town and fort, for his majesty's service. Willoughby, on the same day, signed a similar declaration of mutual amity and defence; and lord Clanricarde departed, on the 14th, well pleased at having reconciled two such important places, upon which the peace and security of the province so much depended.

These pleasing prospects were, however, but of short duration. There was a faction in the town, headed by the clergy, which dissembled for a while; but, on the departure of the earl, they openly avowed their intention of resistance, and, on the 19th of March, the flame burst out with more violence than ever. There lay an English ship in the bay, commanded by one Clarke, and her it was determined to seize. She had on board twelve pieces of ordnance, about a dozen muskets and seven or eight barrels of powder; and, whilst the master was in the fort, and several of his men employed in bringing ballast, Dominick Kirwan, some other merchants and young men, disguised as boatsmen, and armed with pistols and other

38 In the interim, during his absence, in the county of Mayo, and who, being from Galway, the dreadful massacre of before with my lord of Mayo, would fain Shrue took place. This atrocious scene have lodged within my castle, but neither of murder was described by his lordship, intreaties nor threats could prevail. He in a letter of the 19th of February, as also relates that the bishop of Kilalla, his wife and some of his company were preserved by Ulick Burke, of Castlehacket, who sent carriages to convey them to the castle, being sick and almost starved, and that some others were kept alive in other places thereabouts. If any in this county had a hand in that work, I shall hazard much to give them their due punishment."

"I received yesterday a large relation of the inhuman and barbarous massacre of the poor English, from Pierce Lynch, my tenant, of Shruell, who was an eyewitness of that cruelty being done upon, and on each side of the bridge before the castle; the number of the English one hundred. He affirms it was done by those —Memoirs, Lond. 1757.

weapons, attacked the crew, killed the master's mate and another, wounded two or three more, and made themselves masters of the ship; and, although several shots were fired from the fort, with the intention of sinking her, they succeeded in removing her out of its reach. On their return to the town, which was in confusion, they closed the gates, took possession of the church, and disarmed all the English within the walls. They then entered into an oath of union, which Sir Valentine Blake and others, but particularly the titular warden, Walter Lynch, and some friars were most busy and zealous in promoting,³⁹ and they finally opened a communication with the insurgents in Iar-Connaught, and the disaffected in the county of Mayo, whom they invited to join in the confederacy, and to come to their assistance.

This sudden and desperate affair, after so recent a conciliation, at once surprised and alarmed the earl of Clanricarde. The mayor sent a messenger with dispatches for his lordship, wherein he endeavoured to explain and excuse the transaction. He alleged the necessity of having arms to defend the town, in consequence of the injuries and insults received from the fort, and the little distinction made between them and open enemies. He stated that they, at first, offered to purchase the ship and goods, which being refused, the extremities to which they were reduced compelled them to seize her by force, for which, however, they meant to pay the full value; and as to disarming the English, it was done to prevent any contention between them and others in the town; but principally from the like usage to the Catholics in Dublin, Cork and Youghal, "whose miserable condition," adds the mayor, "did put us in mind of what we were to expect;" and he

³⁹ Oath of union taken by the townsmen of Galway.

In the name of God, and the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of the whole court of Heaven. I, A W do profess, testify and declare in my conscience, that our sovereign, lord King Charles is the lawful sovereign, lord and king of this kingdom, and all other his kingdoms and dominions; and that I will bear true faith and allegiance unto him, his heirs, and lawful successors, and him and them, and the lawful rights and prerogatives of his crown, against all foreign power, states and potentates, and against all traitorous practices will uphold, maintain and defend, as far, as in me lyeth.

I do further profess, promise and avow, to uphold, maintain and defend, to the utmost of my power, the Roman catholic religion; and that I will not willingly do, or suffer to be done, any harm or prejudice to any Roman catholic that shall join in this union, in his life, liberty, lands, goods or chattles, either for fear, hope of reward, revenge or malice; and that if any shall oppress or wrong any that shall take this oath, I will take the wrong done unto myself, and, as far as in me lyeth, will labour to get the party so wronged fit

reparation, without distinction of any, for being of town or country.

I do moreover protest, promise and vow, that I will sincerely and truly do my best endeavours to uphold, maintain and defend the common laws of this kingdom, the statute of Magna Charta, and all other statutes made or established in this kingdom for the liberty of the subject; and that I will never give way to change them, or any of them, without the authority of the parliament; and that I will maintain and uphold the liberties, privileges and rights of parliament, as far as it shall lie in my power.

Lastly, I promise, vow and protest, to be true and faithful to the corporation of Galway, saving my faith to our sovereign lord the king; and that I will maintain, uphold and defend all the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities and possessions thereof; and that I will well and truly observe their counsels, and diligently and carefully obey their lawful commands; and, as far as in me lyeth, will protect all and every member thereof in the lawful fruition of his life, liberty, lands, goods and chattles. So help me God, and the contents of this holy Gospel.

finally concluded with professions of loyalty. To all this, lord Clanricarde returned a cool but determined answer, and he immediately commenced preparations to reduce them to obedience.

In the mean time the town declared its intention to invest the fort, and made every preparation for the purpose, by raising a battery, and blocking up all the passages to it, in order to reduce it by famine. They were joined by some country gentlemen, and about thirteen or fourteen hundred men from *Iar-Connaught*, and daily expected considerable assistance from Mayo : but, on the 13th of March, captain Willoughby having received intelligence that a large body of the *Iar-Connaught* forces would, on that night, quarter in the east suburbs, he immediately set fire to all the houses in that direction, and the people within the town were vexed and mortified at beholding the entire in flames and burned to the ground. The earl of Clanricarde, whose first object was to supply the fort with provisions, dispatched about one hundred and forty carriages of wheat, malt, and several other necessaries, to his castle of *Oranmore*, from whence they were safely conveyed to the fort by water. He then raised what forces he could muster in the country, to the number of seven hundred foot, and near two hundred horse, and on the 2d of April arrived at *Oranmore*; where, finding that the two only land passages to the fort, which were narrow, were occupied by the enemy's cannon, it was judged dangerous to attack the besiegers, particularly as they were entrenched in a craggy place, where his horse, which was his principal strength, could be of no service. He thereupon resolved to distress them by cutting off their supplies of provisions, of which they were already scarce; and with this view he placed strong garrisons in his castles of *Oranmore*, *Clare-Galway*, and *Tirellan*; the last of which was situate upon a neck of land commanding the river of Galway, and was committed to the charge of lieutenant Dermot O'Daly, a brave officer,⁴⁰ who, with three companies and thirty musketeers, performed most essential services. The rest of his troops he quartered up and down the barony of *Clare*, upon the tenants and estates of the townsmen and their friends, and with his horse scoured the plains, hindering all resort to the market, or any supply of provisions. The effects of these prompt and vigorous measures were soon felt, and produced discontents among the people within, and their auxiliaries without. The higher classes of the inhabitants were not favourable to the violent proceedings which had taken place, and the remainder dreaded their consequences and result. Meetings were accordingly held, and it was at length resolved to propose terms of adjustment and pacification.

The earl of Clanricarde, anxious for many pressing reasons, to terminate this dangerous revolt peaceably and with expedition, entered into a cessation of arms to the end of the month. In the mean time commissioners were appointed to treat with his lordship; and on the 23d of April, Sir Dominick Browne, Richard Martin, esq. and alderman Browne, for the town, and Sir

⁴⁰ Grandson of Dermot O'Daly, of from Queen Elizabeth, of the entire manor *Lerra*, in the county of Galway gent. who, or lordship of *Lerra*, with all the towns on the 21st June, 1578, obtained a grant and castles to the same belonging.—*Fiant*.

Valentine Blake and Theobald Burke for the county, presented certain propositions, many of which the earl would not at all hearken to. Several meetings were held; but before the terms could be finally adjusted, captain Ashley, in the Resolution, a ship of thirty guns, four hundred tons, and one hundred and thirty men, arrived in the bay, having on board two pieces of cannon, forty barrels of powder, thirty thousand weight of biscuit and other provisions for the fort. On receiving this seasonable supply, Willoughby, whose enmity was inplacable, was, with difficulty, prevented by the earl from bombarding the town. The inhabitants in dismay sent Geoffry Browne, Richard Martin, esqrs. and others to his lordship, with new, and, as they supposed, more acceptable proposals, but he now refused to listen to anything less than an absolute submission. The terms which he dictated to them were, to dismiss their garrison, send away the army from the camp, and give hostages; lay down their arms, restore all the goods taken from the English, dismount all the ordnance pointed against the fort, and demolish the new bulwarks; to sell or issue out no powder, ammunition or arms, but by warrant from his lordship; to deliver all the powder and ammunition, which were then in the town, into the hands of special commissioners; and, finally, that no powder or arms should be admitted to land in the town, but be brought directly to the fort. These conditions were discussed at a public meeting of the corporation; and, although considerable clamour was raised in the town, and most violent opposition given by the clergy,¹ all

¹ The following singular manifesto, which was termed an excommunication, was issued by the warden, and published by all the clergy, on this occasion:

“Whereas, yesterday, the 8th of May, by virtue of a major voice, four things or articles were enacted in the towlshill or courte-house of the town of Galway, viz. that all the powder and ammunition, now within the said towne, shall be left and secured on four men's hands, to be disposed of according to the direction of our lord lieutenant-governor, for the tyme being. Secondly, that all powder and ammunition, hereafter coming to the said towne, shall be sent unto the forte. Thirdly, to demolish our late workes and bulwark, if the said lord lieutenant will soe command. Finally, that Gallway-men shall send, from tyme to tyme, hostages or pledges for performance of such articles, without any pledges required for their own securitie. And whereas wee ourselves, and generally all the doctors, divines and professors now within the said towne, after sufficient deliberation, have found and decided, by our words and subscriptions, the former two articles to be against the profession of the Catholic faith, and against the late oath publicly, solemnly and generally taken in the said towne; yea intended and required for extirpation of the said faith; and the two last very scandalous, shameful and

dangerous, for mens soules and consciences.

We, therefor, Walter Lynch priest, doctor, of divinitie and of the lawes, prothonotarie apostolick, deane of Tuame, and warden of Gallway, fulfilling our dutie to God and to our flock, to avoid all scandels and dangers that have or may ensue hereafter, of or from such acts and articles, voted as formerly, in the name of Jesus Christ, and by vertue of the authoritic wee have from him, and from the pastors of the Catholick Roman church, doe, by this our present sentence, excommunicate and anathematize, majori excommunicatione, ipso facto, nulla alia, expectata sententia, aut declaratione sententiæ, all such persons as voted for the said articles, if, at or before the expiration of three dayes next ensuing the date hereof, they will not vote to the contrarie in the said toulshill-house, and thereby rase, abolish and recall the said articles or acts made against all honestie, prudence and conscience. Wee likewise pray, authorise and require you all, the fathers, seculors and regulars in this town, to publish and intimate to your auditors, in your severall chapples, this our sentence and decree, and to see and procure it to be observed and obeyed as far forth as you may. Dated this nynth of May, 1642, in our present place of habitation.—Orig. MS.

Walter Lynch, warden.

except the last were agreed to. But the camp before the fort becoming greatly distressed for provisions, and at length breaking up, the earl, on the 10th of May, took possession of their trenches, and poured thirty-three great shot from his heavy ordnance into the town, at the same time summoning them by a trumpet to surrender. The mayor desired time until the next day, when, after much debating, the submission was resolved upon, and signed.² On the following morning Geoffry Browne and John Blake, both lawyers, and Martin Skerrett and Peter D'Arcy, merchants, were sent as hostages and on the 13th the gates were thrown open. The mayor, attended by the aldermen and several of the burgesses, attired in their robes of office, awaited the coming of the earl at the cross which divided the town and fort, and there he made his public submission, and delivered up the keys. The "young men" laid down their arms, and his lordship received the town into his majesty's protection, until his further pleasure concerning them should be known.

Thus, at a time pregnant with the greatest danger, was "one of the strongest and most important towns in the kingdom, inferior to none for its trade, riches, strength and situation,"³ reduced to obedience by the single exertion and influence of the earl of Clanricarde, unassisted by the state, and almost without bloodshed. The disaffected throughout the province were greatly disheartened at this signal success, which was the more fortunate, as one Francis D'Arcy, a merchant of the town, in a ship laden with corn, arms and ammunition, had only two or three days before put into a creek in Iar-Connaught, and carried the entire to Galway. By this means, besides the stores of provisions, a most seasonable supply of ten

2 Articles upon the submission of Galway.

1. That the soldiers of the country, now harboured in the town, be immediately dismissed, and not entertained hereafter.

2. That the army be sent away from the camp, and none other entertained from the country but by his majesty's authority, or such as are trusted by him.

3. That the town forces, other than for the necessary watch and ward, and defence of the town for his majesty's service, be discharged.

4. That the town gates be open, and free passage given to all his majesty's subjects to come, and go, and traffick, and the market to be free to the fort, town and country, so they enter not with unusual arms, or great number, to the endangering of the town.

5. That the English now in town may come and go at their pleasure, at usual and accustomed hours, with their goods and provisions.

6. That the keys of the church and colleges may be taken by the warden, dean York; and that there be free liberty for the exercise of the religion established in England and Ireland.

7. That his majesty's laws be of force,

but not to look back to punish offences done since the beginning of the troubles, or until his majesty's pleasure be therein known.

8. That the new fortifications, or bulwarks in the town, towards the fort, go no further forward, but be left to the lieutenant-governor to be done with as he shall find the same dangerous to the fort, and the ordnance to be presently dismounted.

9. That no ordnance, arms, ammunition or powder, be sold or issued out of the town, but by warrant from the said lieutenant-governor; and all such powder and ammunition, as is now in town, forthwith be left upon the hands of Edmond Kirwan, Richard Kirwan, Alexander Bodkin, Martin Skerrett and Geoffry Fonte, not to be issued out of the town by them, or any of them, but by warrant and direction from the lieutenant-governor: the merchants to be paid for their powder at reasonable rates, before it be issued.

10. That fitting security be given for the loyalty of the town.

Walter Lynch Fitz-Ambrose, mayor.
3 Carte.

pieces of ordnance, sixty muskets, and two thousand seven hundred pounds weight of powder, fell into the earl's hands. The provisions were ordered for the use of the fort, and the arms to supply that and other garrisons through the country.—This happy result gave universal joy to every class of persons but the disaffected. The lords justices also, whose views were very different from those of lord Clanricarde, entirely disapproved of his receiving the submission, or granting protection to the town, and expressly directed him to receive no further submissions, but to prosecute the rebels and their adherents, harbourers and relievers, with fire and sword; and they soon after issued orders to all commanders throughout the kingdom, tending to the extermination of the Irish Catholics.

Sir Richard Blake, Sir Roebuck Lynch, Patrick D'Arcy, Richard Martin, Patrick Kirwan, the Recorder, and several others of the most respectable natives and inhabitants of Galway, had incessantly laboured, first to prevent, and afterwards to terminate, the commotions in the town. Many of them, being in danger of their lives from the fury of the rabble, were obliged to retire, but had now returned at the request of the earl of Clanricarde, who hoped by these means to preserve peace within the town, while he laboured for the security of the county. All his measures, however, were soon frustrated by the conduct of Willoughby and Ashley, the captain of the ship *Resolution*, that lay in the harbour. The latter, who, in disposition, much resembled Willoughby, was also extremely covetous, and a violent parliamentarian, and, either out of avarice or from principle, made it a point to violate the pacification. He first seized and pretended to make a prize of Francis D'Arcy's ship, although she lay under the protection of the fort. He landed his men, and plundered the sea-coast all round the bay, pillaged Sir Richard Blake's house at Ardfry, and carried away his goods and cattle, and those of his tenants. Richard Morris, an old tenant of lord Clanricarde's in *Iar-Connaught*, coming in a boat to Galway with some goods to discharge his rent, had the entire seized by Ashley's men, and no satisfaction could be obtained for any of these doings. Captain Willoughby's conduct was equally outrageous; his soldiers endeavoured to hinder all recourse to the town, and those who attempted to have access to it were robbed by them. Although the town had punctually performed the articles agreed upon, yet the governor, without any cause, seized upon a large house or inn near the great gate, called the Bull, then kept by some English innkeepers, and in this he placed a garrison which considerably annoyed the inhabitants. He also sent a garrison to *Castle-Gare*, stationed another near *St. Dominick's* abbey at the west, and placed disorderly sentinels at every gate, who abused such as offered to go out, attempting to take them prisoners to the fort, and exercise martial law upon them, besides killing and robbing the poor people that came to market, burning their fishing-boats, and not suffering them to go out. When the inhabitants ventured to remonstrate with him on these proceedings, he threatened to discharge his ordnance into the town; and, not satisfied with the usual supplies from the country, he sallied forth in conjunction with captain Ashley, and with parties of horse and foot indiscriminately burned and broke open houses, carried away

goods, and plundered the entire district, to the extent of upwards of one thousand sheep and two hundred head of cattle. This system of rapine and devastation had the effect, which perhaps the perpetrators intended, of exasperating the whole country. Captain Willoughby, in one of his predatory excursions with a trumpeter and a troop of horse, coming to a town of lord Clanricarde's, made a prisoner of one Redmond Burke, (serjeant of a company in the forces which lord Clanmorris had raised for his majesty's service,) a man of good character and an experienced soldier, respected and well allied in the country; him he bound, and, with two others, carried to the fort, and had immediately hanged, (in the view of the town's-people, who were looking on from the walls,) under the commission for martial law, which he lately received from the lords justices.⁴ After this outrage, which was little better than a deliberate murder, he proceeded to open hostilities against the town, and, as if in a fit of frenzy, without any provocation, burned all the suburbs, the houses whereof were set for more than one thousand pounds a year rent, and obliged upwards of seven hundred families to retire within the walls, to the great incumbrance of the town. He killed several of the inhabitants, assaulted and scaled the walls by night, and fired his cannon into the town for an entire day, though it produced no other effect than a vast lavish of powder, and a discovery of the small injury his ordnance could do to the town, together with the retreating back into the fort of all the guards and sentinels that had been placed near the gates. All these desperate proceedings were well calculated to create, and did accordingly cause, universal discontent and resentment, and occasioned and hastened the general and successful confederacy which afterwards ensued, and effected the destruction of the fort, and finally ended in the total subversion of the royal authority in the country.

Such was the situation of affairs about Galway, on the 7th of August, 1642, when considerable agitation and suspence were occasioned in the town by the appearance of a squadron of seventeen ships, on the morning of that day, sailing into the bay. They came to anchor in the road, and boats were soon observed to pass and re-pass between them and the fort. This was the fleet of Alexander, lord Forbes, who was appointed by parliament, (without his majesty's concurrence,) lieutenant-general of the additional forces raised by the London adventurers, to waste the coasts of Ireland in a privateering way. His first exploit, after his arrival, sufficiently indicated his intentions, and put the town on its guard against him. He landed a body of men on the county Clare side of the bay, and burned the houses and wasted the lands of Daniel and Turlogh O'Brien, the only two gentlemen in

⁴ Lord Clanmorris, unable to obtain about 70 years, and his wife, who was redress for this outrage, revolted from also old, and in a burning fever, were lord Clanricarde, and withdrew his killed in their beds,) he seized two or troops from his majesty's service. He three of the soldiers, and had them immediately vowed revenge against the fort; and diately hanged, as a reparation for the having soon after surprised a party of its death of his men. Upon this his lordship men pillaging the village of Renville, near rushed into those ruinous measures Galway, (where they murdered six people; which afterwards ended so fatally.—Carte. among whom Geoffry Fitz-Thibot, aged

that country who adhered to their allegiance, invariably relieved the English, and assisted with their long boats and provisions for the relief of the fort, when it was besieged. Lord Forbes declared openly against the late pacification, and required the town to receive a garrison of his men. A messenger arrived from him with a letter for the mayor, and the form of a submission which he insisted upon, by which they were to confess themselves to have been rebels, and humbly submitting to beg his majesty's intercession for them to the parliament of England, and to declare that they would admit such governors as the king and state should appoint, and until then put themselves under the protection of lord Forbes. This was followed by a proclamation of safe conduct to repair to his ship,⁵ but the town's people were too wise to be caught in such a snare, and his lordship was a good deal mortified* to find that they refused all his proposals, and declined to receive his garrison, or to make the submission he required. On the contrary, insisting upon the pacification which they had made and observed. they applied to the earl of Clanricarde for protection. His lordship represented to Lord Forbes the fatal consequences that would attend a breach of the pacification and the commencement of hostilities against the town, by endangering the peace of the country, and making it the seat of war, which he would be totally unable either to prevent, or effectually oppose. But Forbes, stimulated by Willoughby and Ashley, and governed by the advice of the famous fanatic, Hugh Peters, whom he brought with him as his chaplain, and who was afterwards hung and quartered for his rebellious proceedings and the murder of the king, was entirely deaf to every remonstrance of reason or discretion. He landed his men on the west side of Galway, took possession of St. Mary's church, planted two pieces of ordnance against the town, and burned all the surrounding villages. In this extremity lord Clanricarde, and lord Ranelagh, president of Connaught, came to Tirrelan, to endeavour to pacify matters; and, even while there, they could perceive the country around on fire, and heard of several women and children inhumanly killed by his men. They exerted all their power and influence to put a stop to these proceedings, and to persuade lord Forbes to withdraw his forces, and leave the town and country in quiet; but even these entreaties would have proved ineffectual, had he not perceived what little effect his battery had upon the walls, and that his men were becoming troublesome for want of payment. At length, finding himself unable to take the town, or to execute his designs against it, he quit the bay on the 4th of September, and sailed for Limerick; after having, with brutal rage, defaced

⁵ This proclamation was expressed in in the road of Galway, to treat with me the following terms:—Alexander, lord concerning a message sent by me to them, Forbes, lieutenant-general of his majesty's and their humble submission, by returning forces by sea and land, sent for Ireland.— to their allegiance and due obedience to These are to signify and make known unto his majesty and the parliament of you, the mayor, aldermen and commonalty England, may safely and freely come and of the town of Galway, and any other return without fear or danger of im-whom it may concern, that any person imprisonment.—Given under my hand, from and persons, of what quality or condition on board the Speedwell, this present 8th soever he or they be of, who shall be of August, 1642.
desirous to come on board my ship, now

Alexander Forbes.

St. Mary's church, dug up the graves in that ancient burial-place of the town, and burnt the coffins and bones of those that lay there interred; which barbarous conduct served but to make his memory detested, and exasperated the minds of a people already rendered almost desperate from the treatment which they received. Immediately after his departure, a pinnace, which he left behind him in the bay, took a merchantman belonging to the town, valued at near six thousand pounds, and made her a prize. Thus were these ill-fated people doomed to suffer all the miseries of war, and to be treated as enemies or the worst of rebels, at a time when they were desirous of peace, and particularly zealous in the cause of the king, and in the public avowal of their loyalty and allegiance. That there were, at the same time, many discontented and disorderly persons in the town is certain. The young men and lower orders would not be governed by the magistrates: the influence and interference of the clergy, who, from the beginning, were advocates for violent measures, were considerable; and the failure and prevention of their trade and traffic, at home and abroad, (a great portion of which, between the ships in the bay and the neighbouring towns, was usurped with many advantages by Willoughby;) all conspired gradually to lessen the influence of the earl of Clanricarde in the town, and to prepare for the courses which were afterwards adopted.

The disputes between the town and fort still continued unabated. The gates remained closed, and all intercourse was stopped. Willoughby, having seized some of the inhabitants, caused William Lynch, a freeman, to be executed on board one of the ships in the harbour, and kept one Geoffry Lynch under sentence of death in the fort; while the town forces, on the other side, killed several of his soldiers. Both parties at length appealed to the earl of Clanricarde. Willoughby offered to sign such propositions, for the safety of the town and accommodation of all matters, as they should require; and they accordingly proposed to throw open the east gate, and allow free traffic, on condition that he and all others, resident in the fort, should take an oath to be true and faithful to the king, and admit none to the fort, or under its protection, or within the reach of their cannon, that adhered, to the parliament of England, in opposition to the king; that they should not molest the town, or any member thereof, by sea or land; that they should restore all prisoners, goods and chattles taken since the last pacification, and particularly the ship seized by the pinnace, or its value: and towards the conclusion of these conditions and proposals, which were presented to lord Clanricarde by Sir Richard Blake and Patrick D'Arcy, they "humbly intreat his lordship to take the present consideration of this town into his serious consideration, and beseech him not to forget his ancestors love to it, and their hereditary and never interrupted zeal and propension to love, honour and serve him and his family; and, after a sad contemplation of their representations unto him, that he may please to take that resolution thereupon that may be suitable to his favour, piety, honour and justice. and that he may be sure this town, in all fortunes, will continue the affection, obedience and respect it owes him."—Notwithstanding all their endeavours, this treaty ended in nothing, owing to the insincerity and delays of

Willoughby. Even while it was depending, his soldiers made two sallies into the country; killing, in the first, by their own confession, a dozen of poor innocent people, men, women and children; and, in the other, pillaging all the remains of Sir Richard Blake's stock at Ardfry. But what most of all evinced the real principles and intentions of the inhabitants of the fort, was the conduct of captain Constable, commander of one of the ships that came to assist it. This man, standing on the rampart of the fort next the town, called with a loud voice twice over to the townsmen on the walls. "A new king, you rogues and traitors; your king is run away; you shall have a new king shortly, you rogues." From all these and other circumstances, it was at length concluded that the fort was no longer in his majesty's obedience, but entirely at the disposal of the parliament.

At this crisis colonel John Burke arrived in Galway, where he was joyfully received, having been some time before appointed lieutenant-general of Connaught by the general assembly of Catholics which met at Kilkenny on the 24th of October, 1642. Colonel Burke was born in the county of Mayo: he was a man of great prudence and discretion, a brave experienced soldier, (having served upwards of thirty years in the service of Spain,) and high in the confidence of the town and country. He at first endeavoured to keep a fair correspondence with the fort; offered to open the gates; have the benefit of markets and free intercourse between it and the town, provided they contained themselves within bounds, were obedient to the directions of lord Clanricarde, desisted from spoiling, burning or plundering the country, killing or taking the town's-men prisoners, or relieving or aiding the puritans that daily come in ships unto them, and who were the king's declared enemies. These amicable propositions being all rejected by Willoughby, and the castle of Clare-Galway having, on the 28th of February, 1643, through the contrivance of Jonakin Lynch, the earl of Clanricarde's tenant there, the carelessness of the warders, and the management of a Franciscan friar, been surprised by captain Thomas Burke, of Anbally, the acquisition of a place of such strength and importance at once determined their future proceedings. Colonel Burke declared against the fort, and called upon the several gentlemen of the country to levy forces for the purpose of besieging it. Accordingly, in April, 1643, Francis and John Bermingham, son and grand-son of lord Athenry, Sir Ulick Burke, Hubert Burke of Dunamon, Redmond, Richard and Thomas Burke of Kilcornan, Derrymacloghny and Anbally, the three Tiege Kellys of Gallagher, Aughrim and Mullaghmore, Sir Valentine Blake, Sir Roebuck Lynch, and other principal gentlemen of the county, took up arms, and marched with considerable strength towards Galway. Colonel Burke put himself at their head, and about the latter end of that month began to inclose the fort at a distance, and fortify some passages towards the sea, to hinder any relief from that quarter. He invested it with upwards of a thousand men, and posted a body of troops at Clare-Galway and Athenry, to prevent any movement which might be attempted by lord Clanricarde. Provisions becoming scarce in the fort, captain Willoughby, who, on his part, was not inactive, dispatched a party of fifty men to make booty in Iar-Connaught: they were discovered

by the town, who sent some companies to lie between them and their boats, and most of them were cut off. In the beginning of May the siege was pushed on with vigor; the town undertaking to defray the expense, and supply the forces which were drawn out of the country and the county of Mayo for the purpose. Two bulwarks and batteries were erected; one on the point of St. Mary's church in the west, called *Rintinane*; and the other on the opposite point of *Rinmore*; and a chain was drawn across the harbour, to hinder access by sea. Lord Clanricarde was unable to afford any relief.

Rear-admiral Brooke, in the ship *Providence*, arrived in the bay in the beginning of June, with provisions and arms for the fort; but the batteries on the points of *Rinmore* and *Rintinane* hindered him from approaching. He endeavoured in the night to throw in supplies, but his long boats, being met by those of the town, were forced to retire. Captain Willoughby, being thus disappointed of succour, desired permission from colonel Burke to deliver the fort to lord Clanricarde; but this, in the moment of success, he refused to agree to, on any other terms than that his lordship should take the oath of union or association, and not dispose of the place without the consent of the several persons under-named.⁶ These terms the earl, with that consistency and loyalty which always marked his proceedings and character, totally rejected. Willoughby was then forced to treat for a surrender to the confederates. Articles having been accordingly agreed upon and signed,⁷ he surrendered that important fortress on the 20th of

6 The titular archbishop of Tuam, the port, whereunto the said captain lieutenant-general lord Mayo, colonel Anthony Willoughby shall first apply himself after his departure, from this port; Bermingham, colonel Burke, lieutenant-colonel O'Flaherty, serjeant-major O'Shaughnessy, serjeant-major Burke, Willoughby shall make appear upon oath Richard Burke Fitz-John, Thomas Burke to have been brought by himself, and were of Anbally, John Bermingham, Hubert not sent unto him by the king or state. Burke, captain Teige Kelly of Aughrim,

2. That the said captain Anthony Willoughby, his officers and soldiers, shall captain Teige Kelly of Gallagher, captain and may quietly and peaceably, without Teige Kelly Fitz-William, captain interruption, carry away all the goods and Murrough na-mart O'Flaherty, captain chattles wherein they have gained any Anthony Brabazon captain Ulick Carragh property by the law of the land, or by Burke, captain Ulick Burke of Castle- the law of arms, or which they seized hacket, captain Jonack M'Thomas, upon by strength and from any of this captain Edmond O'Flaherty, captain town or country from the beginning of John Madden, captain John Browne, these troubles. captain John Garvy, captain William

3. That the said captain Anthony Willoughby, and all under his command Burke Fitz-John, captain William Burke here, and in Oranmore, shall have such of Cloghan, captain Walter Fitz-Morris, goods restored unto them as they voluntarily deposited, or were violently intercepted or unjustly detained from him or him, and such as are under his command, shall do the like to the inhabitants and captain Richard Betagh.—Clanricarde's Memoirs.

7 Articles for the surrender of St. Augustine's fort, concluded the 20th June, 1643.

1. Captain Willoughby, on the faith and honour of a soldier and a gentleman, doth covenant and grant, to and with lieutenant-general John Burke, to deliver unto him the fort, together with all the ordnance and ammunition of war therein, excepting two pieces of ordnance granted to the said captain Anthony Willoughby, to carry with him, together with sufficient match, powder and bullets, to serve unto

4. That all the said several companies and particular persons under the command of the said captain Anthony Willoughby, or that please to go with him, shall and may have free liberty to march away to the waterside in compleat arms, with their drums beating, colours flying,

June, and also the castle of Oranmore, without the knowledge or consent of lord Clanricarde. The time of the surrender happened fortunately for the confederates; for, on the following day, three large ships arrived in the bay with assistance. Captain Willoughby and his men embarked on Sunday, the 25th of June, in the *Bonaventure*, commanded by vice-admiral Swanlea, the *Providence*, commanded by rear-admiral Brooke, two pinnaces and a barque sent them by the town;⁸ thus leaving by his misconduct, the second fort of importance in the kingdom in the hands of the confederate forces, who soon after caused it to be demolished, by order of the supreme council.

The rejoicings in Galway, on the surrender and demolition of the fort, were excessive; public prayers and thanksgivings were offered up for this signal event and happy deliverance from its troublesome and dangerous neighbour. On the 6th of August they threw open their gates to the Irish, and immediately after raised three hundred pounds to enable them to lay siege to Castle-Coote, in the county of Roscommon, which, with lord Clanricarde's towns of Loughrea and Portumna, were the only places of strength that held out in the province.

Although the town was thus freed from exterior annoyance, the inhabitants wisely foresaw, from the unsettled and turbulent state of the times, that many serious troubles were likely to follow. They, therefore, resolved to be prepared against any future hostile attempts which might be made,

matches lighted on both sides, bullets in month, muskets charged, and all other usual postures in a noble quarter, and so to continue until they be all safely shipped, without any disturbance or opposition whatsoever, provided that all English, Irish or Scotch, that please, may remain with their goods, and enjoy them with fulness and security.

5. That there shall be no aggravation or questioning of any former matters by any townsmen, or others, against any under the command of the said captain Anthony Willoughby, whether it be for debt, tythes, trespasses, hurt or damages whatsoever, either depending, or by them or any of them formerly committed, excepting only such debts as shall appear to be justly due upon such person or persons, as shall expect from them restitution of any goods or chattles.

6. That the prisoners on both sides, as well Mr. Loghlin as all others, shall be freely delivered up without ransom.

7. That all the said captain's friends or acquaintance, either in Oranmore, Kilcolgan, or elsewhere, that shall please, have free liberty to march away with the said captain Willoughby, and shall have full benefit of the said articles, as far forth as concerns them, and as the same is allowed or granted to those in the fort.

8. That after these articles are signed and sealed, on both sides, the said captain Willoughby shall be admitted to send a letter with a flying seal to the right

honorable the earl of Clanricarde.

9. That after these articles are signed and sealed, the captain of the ship shall be admitted to land here at Knockendullen and pass through the town to the fort, to confer with the said captain Anthony Willoughby.

Of the conduct of the inhabitants of Galway during this siege, Bruodin speaks as follows, in his history of those times, p. 75.—*In the obsidione genuinos se catholicos et veros regis et patriæ libertatum amatores demonstrarunt Galviensis civitatis mobiles et cives, præsertim vero, Blakei, Lincei, Bruni, Frincei, Scherati, &c.*

8 The following account of the subsequent tragical fate of many of those unhappy men, shews that the slow, but awful, vengeance of Providence, which never fails, sooner or later, to punish the guilty, signally overtook them for the many massacres and murders which they committed on the unoffending inhabitants of Galway and its vicinity." "In May, 1644, lord Ormonde sent captain Anthony Willoughby, with one hundred and fifty men, which had formerly served in the fort of Galway, from Dublin to Bristol: the ship which carried them was taken by captain Swanley, who in two parliament ships committed great ravages on the sea about Dublin, who was so inhuman as to throw seventy of the soldiers overboard, under pretence that they were Irish."—*Carte*, Vol. I. p. 481.

and, accordingly, before the end of the year 1643, finished the east and south-east rampart, beginning at the great bulwark of the east gate, and extending from thence round to the little bridge which led to St. Augustine's abbey, together with the wall commencing at the works erected in the mayoralty of William Martin, and leading from thence, in a south-east direction, to the point of *Cean-na-bhalla*, at the quay. For some years after this period several considerable additions were made to the fortifications. In 1645 the strong bulwark about Lyons-tower was built as well to protect the abbey of St. Francis as to guard the little gate. The flanker about the new tower, and also that adjoining Lyons-tower, with the wall and ramparts, were completed in 1647, under the superintendence of the mayor and Walter Joes, for the defence of the town walls, and of the shipping in the pool. These works were soon afterwards furnished with twelve heavy pieces of cannon, consisting of four brass and four iron of twelve, and four iron of eighteen pound ball, which were purchased in France by the directions of the corporation, and brought over by Francis D'Arcy. The gates were all repaired, and the new flanker outside the east gate was built in 1649. The following year the rampart and bastions, from thence to Kirwan's-tower, were completed, which finished the line of fortifications round the town, and rendered it, particularly for defence, the most considerable in the kingdom.

The affairs of the confederates proceeded prosperously in Connaught, until the defeat and slaughter, by Sir Charles Coote, of the titular archbishop of Tuam in 1645, in his attempt to recover Sligo. The important consequences which followed this event, particularly that attending the discovery, among the archbishop's papers, of an authentic copy of the famous private treaty between Charles I. and the earl of Glamorgan, are fully detailed in all the histories of this period; but the subjoined dispatch, from the abbot of Kilmannock to the warden of Galway, contains a more satisfactory account of the affair itself than is elsewhere to be found.⁹ During

9 "To the warden of Galway.—Here is the commander of Sligoe, offering to exchange prisoners: ours write that they are kindly used by them, and desire relief after taking the and ransome. John Garvy is prisoner in abbie of Sligoe, and hearing of the Newtown, with Mr. Jackson, and the rest approach of Coote with a strong relief at Sligoe; their names are as followeth: from the North, begun to march back Lieut. colonels, Morogh Flaherty and from Sligoe; and though they beat the John Garvey.—Majors, Richard Bourke enimie that day and the day before, yet and William Shaughnessy.—Captains, then, a few horse of the said enimie put Gerald Dillon and Roger Costelo.—Lieutenants, Christopher Ryan, Conor xight (proh dolor,) my lord archbishop, C'Heyne and Teige Flaherty.—Cornets, father Teige Conel, father Augustine John Barnwell and William Terel.—Higgin, with other clergymen, were Ensigns, John Bedlow, Bryan Kelly, Hugh killed, and pittifullie mangled, and soe Mc.Gillecooly and James Linch.—left in the way near Sligoe. General Troopers, Richard Bedlow, Edward Taffe sent a trumpet to Sligoe, and got Fitzgerald, Garret Dillon, Richard Bourk, newes, on the 27th instant, that the John Boyle, John Fitz-Garet, Francis Scots will not part with my lord arch-Cadel, Christopher Kent, Richard Bourk bishop's body, without getting out of it and John Higgin.—Drummers, Thomas thirty pounds sterling. The said trum-Walsh and Conor Quin.—Two footmen petter brought with him two letters from with a coronet and seven troopers for-

all the vicissitudes of these unhappy times, the town steadily adhered to its original declaration of allegiance to the king, which it embraced every opportunity of publicly testifying. An offensive publication, intitled, "*Disputatio apologetica de jure regni, &c.*" was about this time written and published by Connor O'Mahony, an Irish jesuit, at Lisbon: its principal intention was to recommend the separation of Ireland from England, and to stimulate the descendants of the old Irish to choose a king of their own nation, and throw off the English yoke. This book was condemned by the supreme council at Kilkenny¹⁰ and ordered to be burned; but the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of Galway previously assembled on the subject, and published a declaration, expressing their abhorrence of these pernicious doctrines. This document, which contains a manifestation of their then principles, is, for its curious import and singularity of expression, laid before the reader.¹¹ About the same time the corporation

merlie taken in the skirmish at Ballymote.

"The relief sent out of the North is come to Sligo, of which it stands us much upon to beware, and not to sleepe but rather stand to the matter stiflie. The forces of this country are at Strade, where they intend to remain until further direction. General Taffe writes that it is most requisite that the provincial counsell doe meet in all haste, to lay down a course to keep off the Scotch tyrants. I wrote to you yesterday, desiring your attendance at Tuame, the 4th of the next month, and now once again I give you notice to be there then or the day afore, viz. next Monday, otherwise you may repent; and so much distracted and restlesse, I am yours, John Dowly.—Neale, 31st October, 1645.—Orig. MS.—The writer of this dispatch was one of the clergy who assembled at James' town, in the county of Leitrim, on the memorable 6th of August, 1650, on which occasion he was proctor for the chapter and clergy of Tuam.

¹⁰ The general assembly of the confederate catholics of Ireland met in Kilkenny, on the 10th of January, 1647. The following natives of Galway sat as representatives of the commons; viz. Sir Richard Blake of Ardfry, who was chairman or speaker of the assembly; Patrick D'Arey, the celebrated lawyer, who presided at the meeting, as the lord chancellor does in parliament; John Bermingham, Francis Blake, Dominick Bodkin, Edward Browne, Geoffrey Browne, Christopher French, James French, Patrick Kirwan, Martin Lynch, Nicholas Lynch, Roebuck Lynch and Anthony Martin.

¹¹ 1647, September 11th.

"By the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty of the town of Galway.

"Whereas we have of late credibly heard that a scandalous seditious book, intitled, "*Disputatio apologetica et*

manifestativa de jure regni Hiberniæ pro Catholicis Hiberniis adversus hereticos,"

(and have seen brief notes of the matter containd in it, full of venomous and virulent doctrines, and damnable treasons against our king and country,) hath been lately printed and published, most maliciously intending to distracte and alienate the hearts of his majesty's faithful catholique subjects of Ireland from their bounden and dutiful allegiance and obedience to their undoubted lawful soveraigne lord and king, Charles, that now is king of Great Britain, France and Ireland; and that divers copies of the said books are dispersed into several partes of this kingdome; and albeit wee have made diligent search for finding out the said booke, and for learning who might be the true author of soe pestilent a worke, we have not as yet attained to our desires in that behalfe, but do expect that our intentions therein will shortly take effecte. Wherefore, in the interim, (by way of prevention, in manifestation of our zeal, duty and allegiance to our said soveraign lord and king, Charles, to his heirs and lawful successors, kings of England, and in full and open declaration before God and the world, that noe accident, which happened in the late government of this his kingdome of Ireland, shall nor may induce us to alter or violate our constant, sincere and faithful loyalty to his majesty, his lawfull heirs and successors,) we thought fit and expedient, and well becoming us, by our publique and unanimous declaration of our consciences in that behalfe, to protest, like as by these presents wee do protest, that wee doe, and always will preserve and continue in our faith and allegiance to our said soveraign lord king Charles, his heirs and lawful successors, and that wee did not embrace nor accept any other power over us, in any temporal things or causes, which may any way derogate from his and their royal prehemineny or authority, or be incon-

farmed, from the commissioners-general of Connaught, for two thousand four hundred pounds, the excise, thirds and rents arising out of the town and county, for the year ending the 1st of May, 1648: the principal part of the money was immediately advanced, and the remainder stipulated to be paid within a few months. Trade seemed on the increase; and the town, amidst the grievous troubles which agitated the remainder of the kingdom, enjoyed for a while a reasonable portion of peace and security.

The assembly at Kilkenny having found it necessary to conclude a cessation of arms with lord Inchiquin, president of Munster, Rinuncini, the Pope's nuncio, immediately published a declaration against it. From this the assembly appealed, and was supported by a great body of the clergy of the kingdom, together with the army under the command of the marquis of Clanricarde, lord Taaffe and general Preston. In vain the nuncio fulminated his excommunications; his measures and party fell into discredit. In this dilemma he sought refuge in Galway, where he had some abettors, particularly the warden and others, whom his presence and exhortations stimulated to open acts of violence and commotion. The mayor was desirous to proclaim the cessation, but was prevented by the populace, who forced their way into his house, and wrested the ensigns of authority from his hands; but this insolence occasioned such a tumult, that, had they not been immediately restored by the very hand that took them, the consequences would have been lamentable; and, even as it was, two or three men were killed. The carmelite friars, shewing some resistance against this proud ecclesiastic, their dwelling was assaulted by night, and their persons abused. In a fit of rage he ordered the bell to be pulled down, and placed two priests at the entry to their chapel, to keep the people from resorting there to prayers. Those who favoured the cessation were declared under censure; the churches were closed, and all divine offices interdicted. In this state was the town, when the archbishop of Tuam, who declared against these measures, arrived. Having desired to see the nuncio's power for assuming such authority, he refused to produce it, whereupon the prelate told him to his face that he would not obey: "Ego," answered the nuncio, "non ostendam:" "et Ego," replied the archbishop, "non obediam;" and he immediately after caused the church doors to be opened by force. The nuncio, finding himself thus opposed, summoned a synod to meet in Galway on the 15th of August; but the council forbidding the clergy to attend, and ordering all civil and military officers to stop their passage, they were unable to meet. Lord Clanricarde having been, in the mean time, reinforced by Inchiquin, laid siege to the town on the 14th of August, and, hindering all access of provisions by land or water, the promoters of these violent proceedings, unprepared for a siege, were

sistent with the same. And wee doe sure and damne the same, with the author likewise protest and declare, that wee do thereof, if we light on them, to scorching utterly detest and abjure the said dam- and revenging fire which they deserve! nable and seditious book, and doctrine God save the King. Corp. Book, A. therein contained, and doe and will cen-

John Blake, mayor."

forced, about the 4th of September following to surrender. They were then put under articles to proclaim the cessation, pay a considerable sum of money, and renounce the nuncio, who, thus finding all his measures frustrated, took shipping at Galway, on the 23d of February following, and departed from the kingdom.

The English and Irish armies being now united, under the command of the marquis of Ormonde, Galway advanced him five thousand pounds¹² on the security of the customs of the town, in aid of his intended campaign against the parliamentary forces. Upon this occasion his lordship knighted Walter Blake, the mayor. The melancholy news of the king's violent death soon after reached the town, and was received with every manifestation of sorrow. His successor, Charles II. was immediately proclaimed with the greatest solemnity. The mayor had afterwards the satisfaction of receiving the following letter from his majesty.

“ Charles R.

“ Trusty and well-beloved, we greete you well. Wee have been duly informed of the loyalltye and good affection that you and the cittie of Galway have expressed to us at all tymes, but especiallyte of late, when others have so shamefully betrayed the trust we reposed in them, by resigning themselves into the hands and power of the rebells: wee doubt not but you will constantly continue the same loyalltie to us, with due care for the preservation of our just authority amongst you; and for your encouragement therein, wee assure you that wee are not only truly sensible of what you have alreadye done for our service, but as that cittie of Galway is one of the principal citties that hath eminently continued their loyalltye and devotion to us, soe shall we in due time conferre such priviledges and favour upon you as may be lasting monuments of your deserving above others, and of our particular grace and acceptation thereof, and soe wee bid you farewell.—Given at our court in Jersey, the 4th day of Februarye, 1649, in the second year of our raigne.¹³

“ To our trusty and well beloved the mayor and aldermen of our cittie of Gallwaye.”

The day this communication was received in Galway was one of the last days of its greatness and prosperity. For upwards of a century after this period, war, pestilence and persecution, succeeding each other in rapid and melancholy succession, afflicted its devoted community, and reduced this once opulent, populous and respectable town to the most unenviable situation. Since the commencement of the civil commotions, a degree of insubordination and licentiousness had prevailed amongst the inhabitants, which it was not in the power of the magistracy either to suppress or control; and vices, before unheard of and unknown, and indeed incompatible with the integrity and simplicity of former manners, were

¹² Carte says, that this sum was not paid by the town until after the siege of Dublin.

¹³ Corp. Book, A.—How far he afterwards performed the promise contained in this letter will appear in the sequel.

now become prevalent and familiar.¹⁴ The population of the town had also increased considerably, several persons from the country flocking in with their families and property for protection; and in this crowded state was the place when the plague made its appearance, in the month of July, 1649, and continued to rage with unabated virulence until the end of April following, during which time it swept away upwards of three thousand seven hundred of the inhabitants, including two hundred and ten of the most respectable burgesses and freemen with their families. Those who survived or escaped the contagion gradually left the town, as the only means of preservation, until it was almost entirely deserted of its inhabitants. They assembled in the country; and, having made a collection of two thousand marks to pay physicians and provide necessaries for the sick, they formed a committee of health, whose judicious measures and assiduity finally succeeded in eradicating the infection. An entry of this memorable visitation, made in the corporation book in the year 1650, concludes with these words: "It is to be ever remembered how our Saviour, out of the abundance of his mercy, hath, about our Lady's day in lent last, freed and cleared this town and all the inhabitants thereof from the said sickness, so as they have returned to their own dwellings, and ever since do inhabit them with as much security as ever before."

The town was no sooner freed from this dreadful visitation, than it became involved in all the distracting politics of the times. The marquis of Ormond, having determined upon leaving the kingdom, arrived here in the beginning of December, accompanied by lord Inchiquin, colonels Vaughan, Wogan, Warren, and about twenty other persons of distinction, all of whom sailed from Glaneinagh, in the bay, on board the Elizabeth, of Jersey, a small frigate of twenty-four guns, and, after a hard passage of three weeks, landed at Perose, in Basse Bretagne. At the same time, a large Dutch ship, called the Seven Stars, sailed from Kilcolgan, which arrived at another port in France. The marquis of Clanricarde, who succeeded as lord deputy, soon after arrived in town, and knighted the mayor, Sir Oliver Oge French; but he could not, however, prevail on the inhabitants to admit a garrison, or any number of troops, but what should be entirely under their own control.

In the latter end of February, Stephen de Henin, abbe of St. Catherine, and ambassador from the duke of Lorrain, arrived in the bay of Galway, with offers of assistance and relief for the nation. The marquis of Clanricarde, as soon as he was apprised of his coming, repaired to

¹⁴ The following curious description is taken verbatim from a manuscript written at this period.—"The ensuing things brought no good success to the town, but rather ambition, discord and discredit; viz. knights, lawyers and bomery-masters brought pride, lawyers intricacy and licentiousness, where all matters formerly were tried and determined by two honest burgesses or friends; and bomery-masters brought discredit in the highest degree. In old times they would rather hang themselves than break or discontent strangers, but it is now made a common trade, to the great dishonour of the town. They are also infected with pride, none being accounted worthy of good marriage or portion, however so well bred or educated, unless he had a stone house or good estate; likewise in the said town the sin of lechery abounded.—MS.

Tirellan, and appointed a committee, composed of the bishops, nobility and gentry then in the town, to treat with him; but on ascertaining his proposals, which were, that the duke, his masters and his successors, should be accepted as protectors of Ireland, with royal powers, and that some towns should be put into his hands, as security for what he should expend in recovering the kingdom, the lord deputy, with strong expressions of resentment, totally rejected them, as entirely derogatory to the king's honor and authority, and, preparing to depart from Tirellan, refused the abbe even an audience of leave. This reception so intimidated the ambassador, that he immediately changed his conditions, and consented to advance twenty thousand pounds on the security of the city of Limerick and town of Galway, without any other stipulation. To this the marquis assented, referring all articles relative to the protectorship to be adjusted by a treaty at Brussels, which was to be managed by the queen, the duke of York and lord Ormond. He then issued a warrant of freedom to the town,¹⁵ and articles of agreement were concluded between the ambassador and the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty, by which it was covenanted that the town should be governed according to its charters, be free from any imposition of taxes by the duke, or pay of his soldiery, secure in their persons, goods, lands, estates and possessions, upon which, if any injury should be committed, full reparation should be made; and

15 A warrant of freedom to the town of Galway.

"Clanricarde.

"Whereas the city of Limerick and town of Gallway are cautionary for the payment of twenty thousand pounds sterling unto his highness the duke of Lorrain, his majesty's just dues therein being by us engaged towards the repayment thereof, which engagement may bring upon the said city and town the burthen and trouble of garrisons more than usual; we have taken the same into our consideration, and the willingness of the said city and town to forward the service of his majesty and this kingdom, and that they have been, and at present are, at great expence in fortifying the said city and town; are, therefore, by the advice and consent of the commissioners, intrusted, in pursuance of the articles of peace, and at the earnest request of the mayor and inhabitants of the said town of Gallway, and of the agents of the city of Limerick, pleased, that, the said city and town, the liberties and counties of them, and every of them, shall not contribute or be liable, during the time they shall be cautionary, to any of the applotments or assessments in the county at large, or in any other place of the kingdom, other than upon the repayment of his highness's disbursements by the kingdom. The said city and town shall pay their just proportion of the said twenty thousand pounds, and of such further supplies as his highness, his heirs and successors, will afford for the service of the kingdom. And we are further pleased, that, during the said engagement, the merchants of the said city and town shall have free liberty of exportation of all native and foreign commodities, notwithstanding any act to the contrary; they paying thereout his majesty's just dues, as, by the articles made between us and the said ambassador, they are disposed. And we are further pleased that two hundred musketeers, with officers and a gunner, under the command of Sir Robert Lynch, be forthwith sent to the Isles of Arran, with a reasonable proportion of ammunition, and three pieces of ordnance with necessaries; and that three months means be provided them out of the said twenty thousand pounds to be received, deducting thereout so much as the contributions of the said islands comes unto, according unto their dividend for that time, the said ammunition to be provided by the publick; and the said town of Gallway to furnish the three pieces of ordnance, for which the said corporation is to be paid, by the publick, out of the next supplies: and after the expiration of the said two months, the said two hundred men and officers to be there maintained at the public charge, as the rest of the standing forces of the county Gallway.—Given at Tyrellan, the 7th of April, 1651."—Memoirs.

finally, that the town should not be liable to repay the twenty thousand pounds or any part thereof, except its just proportion. Sir Nicholas Plunket and Geoffrey Browne, Esq. were dispatched by the lord deputy to Brussels with directions to conclude the treaty in conjunction with lord Taaffe. How this affair was conducted and ended, may be found in all the histories of those times. They entered into articles with the duke, contrary to the directions which they had received. The lord deputy made a formal protest against this unwarrantable proceeding; and Lorrain, taking the opportunity, from some private unexplained reasons, put an end to the treaty.

Whilst this hollow negotiation was going forward, the parliamentary forces proceeded with rapid strides towards the conquest of the kingdom. Preston, the gallant Irish commander, betrayed and gradually defeated in every other quarter, finally threw himself with a few troops into Galway, where he was intrusted with the chief command, and honored with the title of governor. The town was soon after invested by Sir Charles Coote and commissary-general Reynolds and was quickly reduced to a state of blockade. The castles of Tirellan, Oranmore and Clare-Galway were taken; and on the 12th of August, 1651, the enemy pitched their camp between Lough-a-thalia and Suckeen, within a few hundred yards of the walls. Limerick having surrendered on the 27th of October, a council of war was held by Ireton, to determine whether he should immediately march with his army towards Galway. The general himself and several officers were for this measure; but others complaining of the ill condition of their men, through sickness and severe service, and the near approach of winter, it was resolved that, for the present, they should summon the town to accept the conditions originally tendered to Limerick. Accordingly, on the morning of the 9th of November, dispatches arrived from the lord deputy for the governor, (inclosing letters also to the mayor and inhabitants,) in which, after some pointed reflections, he informs him that if he shall freely communicate the proposals to the town's-people, and be himself, "waving the frivolous impertinencies of a soldier's honor or humor rather," inclined to capitulate, he might then expect to participate in the benefit of the conditions; but that if he smothered or suppressed them, he might be sure that his head would pay for the trouble or mischief that should follow.¹⁶

¹⁶ The interesting nature of the correspondence which took place on this occasion, independently of its never before having been made public, induced its insertion here. It strongly displays the characters of the famous individuals in question, and is further remarkable for being the last political act of their eventful lives. For these reasons, it is hoped, it may not be unacceptable to the reader.

"To general Preston.

"I shall not now doe you the curtesie to summon you at such a distance, because you gravity once chid me for it as unadvisedly, but for the good men's sake of the

city, who perhaps may not be so angry in the notion of a souldier's honor, as to understande the quibbles of it, or to find that worth or weight in them to admit in balance against the more feeling concerns of their own safety and subsistence, though men of your unhappy breeding think such glorious trifles worth the sacrificing or venturing of other men's lives and interests for, (however you would your owne,) I have here sent to them a sober tender of conditions, which they may (perhaps) think it behoves them to consider, while there's time, or rather at distance, than stay till the refusal bring

Enraged at this threat, Preston, on the 12th, returned an angry answer of defiance, telling Ireton that the "heads of those with him were as unsettled on their shoulders as any he knew of within the town." The communication for the inhabitants was artfully contrived to create distrust of the garrison; but the example of Limerick operated more powerfully; they seemed inclined to yield, and accordingly desired to know the particulars of the conditions which he proposed. In the mean time, Preston, dreading the event of a surrender, by which his life would be endangered, took shipping

mischiefe or danger nearer to their doores. This, if you shall fairly communicate as 'tis directed, and especially if you be found compliant to the substance and effect of it (waving the frivolous impertinencies of a souldier's honor or humor rather,) you may partake in the benefit of such conditions as your quality renders you capable of. If you smother or suppress it, you may guess whose head shall pay for the trouble or mischief that shall follow, if God enable us to reach it, as I doubt not but he will, because he is, and we have eminently found him still to be, a righteous judge pleading to the quarrell of the innocent, and a severe avenger of their blood against those that spill it or lightly regard it, as well as a merciful father and faithful master to those that seek and serve him.—Sir, your servant.—Clare-castle, 7th November, 1651.—H. Ireton."

"For general Ireton.

"It would prove noe curtesie unto me your summoning me at such a distance, but rather a discourtesy, which had, in my opinion, rendered you guilty of a second error against the rules of warre. You may not think strange that the people of this towne should stand upon souldier's honor, and have skill to oppose an enemy, who have of themselves (without the assistance of others) long since stood out against the threats and attempts of the lord Forbes, who was general of a fleet when he besieged them, and forced him to retire without any loss to themselves. If my profession be unhappy, (as you terme it,) I cannot but admire you should follow the same, which, if it hitherto hath proved to your content, may hereafter prove unhappy to you, accordinge to your own judgment of it: and if men of that profession shall be backward in venturing men's lives in a just cause, (such as I owne, being for my religion, king and country,) they shall hardly attain to the effecting of any great enterprize. But such as hazard men's lives without a just cause, will one day answer for their blood before God, the just judge, in which (when you reflect on your owne actions,) you will find yourself as guilty as others. Your letter to the mayor, aldermen and burgeses of this towne I delivered them, knowing their honest and gallant resolution to be such as they may not be drawn

or tempted to any of the least distrust or jealousy of the souldiers amongst them, which you endeavour, by your letter, to fill their imaginations withall, for your owne ends and their utter ruine; and, had I suppressed or smothered it, I cannot guess whose head here should be subject to pay for it; for I hold that the heads of those with you are as unsettled on their shoulders as any I know in this towne.—Sir, your servant.—Gallway, 12th Nov. 1651.—Thomas Preston, Taragh."

The dispatch for the citizens was as follows:

"Gentlemen, I suppose you cannot but understand that (as God hath pleased to bless and dispose of our affaires) wee have no place considerable in Ireland to intend next but your city, where, I believe, you must needs feele some restraint already both to your trading and supplys, and cannot but foresee more coming on, that will reduce you (by God's blessing continuing with us) to extremity ere long, though we should not at all deal with you in a more forceable way. And therefore, though I can expect little fruit of a formal summons at this distance and season, if you be under the power of a mercenary souldiery, (who will perhaps pretend point of honour, not to yield before more extremity or immediate force at hand, but really intend their own interests, soe farr as to keepe themselves in a warm quarter and good pay, whilst they can,) though thereby (besides first milking of you dry) they bring you into as bad a condition at last as those in Limerick and other places have done the poore people that maintained them, and then, getting as good conditions as they can for themselves, to be gone, leaving you with your more weighty interests behinde to stande at the stake; yett not knowing but your wisdom may have kept you soe far masters of yourselves and your city, as to be able to rid yourselves of such guests when you see cause, I thought fit hereby to offer you, as once I did to Limerick, last year, whilst they were their owne masters, that if you will yet open your gates, and submitt to the state of England, you shall find more mercy and favours to all, save the original authors of the rebellion, the first engagers in command or councill therein, before the first general assembly, or such as sate therein, than

in the bay, and went to France. Before any further negotiation could take place, Ireton died in Limerick, of the plague, on the 29th of November, and was succeeded in command by lieutenant-general Ludlow. On the death of this "gloomy republican," a monetary gleam of hope passed over the desponding minds of the inhabitants of Galway, and they again determined on the most vigorous resistance. About the beginning of December Coote again proposed the conditions offered to Limerick, but they declined the treaty. Hostilities warmly commenced, and continued with various success on both sides, until some reverses experienced by the town changed

you shall ever have from mee, by bargaining for yourselves. Or if you think it better for you to capitulate for considerations, I shall (if you accept them without further trouble to us) give you the same in effect which I tender'd to Limerick at my first sitting down before it this yeare, in case they would have surrendered then, soe as to have set us free for other worke the remainder of the summer, which, if, upon the said example of what they by the refusal have lost, and what they came to at last, after all the distresses, impoverishments and miseries of the siege, you incline to lay hold on while you may, and soe prevent the like miseries, you shall soone understand them from mee. Now, indeed, though you should not be overmastered by an hungry sharking souldiery yet the multitudes of priests, those incendiaries of blood and mischief amongst men, and of other desperate persons (engaged upon their principles in the beginning of this rebellion, and in the murders and outrages therein committed) which I understand you have amongst you makes me apt to doubt that by reception and protecting of them, and adherence thus far unto them, (if not by any bloody and treacherous actinge of your owne,) you may, in the righteous judgment of God be soe far involved with them in the same guilt, as to be doomed to partake with them in the same plague, and given up to be either overawed or deluded thereunto by the same persons, with whom, and for whose sake you have made yourselves partakers in the guilt, or (at least) I am sure such as those amongst you (soe far as they can prevaile to overpower you or deceive you) will endeavour to engage you as deepe, render you as desperate as themselves, and make your wealth and strength serve to maintain or perfect them, and their broken, wicked interest, as long as ever they can. Yet whatever issue it have, I shall have the satisfaction in myself of having discharged such a duty towards the saveing and real good of men, (if capable of it,) and in having by this a good tryal how God suffers you to be inclined for mercy or judgment to yourselves, and see the more clearly, what dealing he calls for towards you from our hands. If you shall be blinded or hardened to this refusall of this mercy whilst

you may have it, and to put the state of England, and us their servants, to the charge, hardship and labour of drawing before you to besiege you, when there is noe town but yours to protraet the end of the war, you may well expect (since wee have nothing else considerable to do,) that we shall endeavour to the utmost to make you pay dearly for it in the issue, and more than others before you, by how much you alone doe with lesse reason or hopes (and more malignant obstinacy) lengthen out our charge and trouble, and make yourselves the single and more singular mark of justice.—Yours,

H. Ireton."

Answer.

"Wee received yours, dated at the castle of Clare, the 7th of this instant, wherein you seemed (under the eloud of a friendly advice) to set distrust and jealousy betwixt us and the souldiery amongst us, which perhaps the like hath wrought your desired effects of division and distraction in Limerick and other places, to their owne ruine: yet have wee that confidence in the omnipotent God, who is the author and fountaine of union and charity, that nothing shall be able to rend or break the settled conjunction which is between us in the towne, soe that our intentions, it will appear by the effect to be the general act of all, without exception. You were pleased to speak in your letter of condition offered to Limerick last year, and likewise of others offered by you to them, when first you sate before that city this yeare, of both which, wee being ignorant, cannot give that full resolution upon those offers by you made. We doe expect from you that full scope of both those conditions mentioned in your letter, and that without exception of any person or persons in or of this towne,) whereupon wee will return unto you such answer and resolution as God shall direct us, and which shall become good christians, and howsoever God shall be pleased to direct men of our condition and quality, and soe we remaine your servants.—Richard Kirwan, mayor; Oliver Ffrench, Stephen Ffrench, Thomas Lynch, James Lynch, Dominick Browne, John Blake.—Galway, 12th November, 1651.—To general Ireton."

—Council Book.

the face of affairs. Being in a state of strict blockade, and provisions beginning to grow scarce, about eighty of the inhabitants went privately out of the town, and seizing one hundred head of cattle, designed to drive them in, but being met on their return by a party of the enemy, upwards of sixty were killed, and the cattle retaken. This disappointment was followed by another much greater; for two vessels laden with corn, endeavouring to get into the harbour, were pursued by two parliamentary frigates, who took one, and forced the other on the rocks, near the islands of Arran, where she was lost.¹⁷ These disasters were considerably heightened by the increased population of the town, which was crowded by multitudes of the nobility, clergy, and other persons of rank and interest in the kingdom, who flocked hither as their last place of refuge and safety. Meetings were frequently held to deliberate upon the state of affairs, at which the marquis of Clanricarde generally presided; and it was at length resolved, when too late, that proposals should be made for a general pacification and settlement of the kingdom. Accordingly dispatches to that effect were sent by the marquis to general Ludlow, on the 14th of February, requiring at the same time, a safe conduct for commissioners to carry on the treaty. To these proposals Ludlow, on the 24th, returned a vague and indefinite answer, merely informing him that the settlement of the nation belonged to the parliament, who he was assured would not capitulate with those who ought to be in submission, and stood in opposition to their authority; but "if the Lord inclined their hearts to submission, such moderate terms would be consented to, as men in their condition could reasonably expect." The submission here intimated may easily be conceived to have meant little less than an absolute surrender of their lives and liberties to the mercy of the besiegers. The great council (as they were still called) again assembled within the town, and resolved to propose a cessation of arms, and demand a licence for commissioners to repair to the parliament in England. These proposals having been also rejected,¹⁸ the principal part of the nobility and

¹⁷ Ludlow's Memoirs Vol. I. 339.

¹⁸ An extract from Ludlow's dispatches to Sir Richard Blake, in answer to those propositions, will fully develop the views of the parliamentary leaders, and justify the fears then entertained of their intentions.—"You reiterate the former application from the earl of Clanricarde for the settlement of this nation; differing only in this, that he would have capitulated on the place: you propose to repair to reparaire to England, apprehending the former denyall to proceed from want of power here, whereas the chiefe grounds were the unreasonableness of the proposition, that such (who are guilty of a bloody and cruell massacre at least engaged in the withholding of them from justice who are soe, whom the righteous hand of God hath prosecuted from field to field, from city to city, even to the gates of Galway,) should be admitted to capitulate about the settlement of this nation with the par-

liament of England, (their lawfull magistrate,) whom God hath not only permitted to be raised to their present height, as you terme it, but by his owne outstretched arme and glorious presence hath enabled to become a terrour to evil doers, and an encouragement to them that doe well; and this capitulation to be before they have either owned their guilt, or delivered up those Achans to justice, for whose iniquity the land mournes. Indeed if once the Lord would truly humble you under his omnipotent hand, for your raising and fomenting this unnatural quarrell between two nations of late linked in love, allyed in blood, and not different in laws, (as yourselves confesse,) and would incline you timely and readily to submit to their authority, (as the greatest part of the nation have alreday done,) I should then hope that deliverances were drawing nigh. As touching the cessation you propose for avoydinge the further effusion of christian

men of rank, then in the town, took shipping in the bay, and left the kingdom in despair.

Thus circumstanced, the inhabitants unanimously resolved to sell their lives as dearly as they could. Every preparation, both offensive and defensive, was vigorously made; the fortifications were refitted; communication with the country was renewed, and succours contracted for, which would have enabled them to protract the war, and even render its issue in some degree doubtful. These preparations, though they excited the alarm and raised the fears of the enemy, had, however, no other effect than that of rendering them more inclinable to terms of accommodation. The great dearth of provisions, which now threatened the besieged with all the horrors of approaching famine, at length obliged them to submit to a treaty of capitulation with Coote. Commissioners on both sides were appointed; and the conditions originally offered to Limerick, by Ireton, were now made the basis of the articles, which were finally agreed upon, and signed on the 5th of April, 1652. By these articles, the town, forts, fortifications, &c. were to be delivered up to Sir Charles Coote for the parliament on the 12th instant; all persons within the town were to have quarter for their lives, liberties and persons, and six months time to depart with their goods to any part of the nation, or beyond seas. The same time was allowed the clergy to quit the kingdom; and all those comprized in the second article were to have an indemnity for past offences, except Dominick Kirwan and others who were concerned in the attack on captain Clarke's ship on the 19th of March, 1641. The inhabitants were to enjoy their estates to them and their heirs for ever, in all houses, castles, lands, &c. within the town and the old and new liberties, with liberty to let and set same, but, in case of sale, to pay a third part of the price to the state of England. They were to be charged with no contribution but in proportion with other cities and towns, and were to enjoy two parts of their real properties in all places within the state's dominion, but subject to regulations for remuneration when contiguous to castles, fortifications or streights. Upon surrender of the town, they were to enter into, and enjoy all their real estates, until persons should be appointed by the parliament to dispose of one-third thereof for its use; and the composition of five thousand pounds, insisted upon for the third part of their goods and chattels, was referred to commissioners for remittal or mitigation. The corporation charter and privileges were guaranteed, and liberty to trade provided for. All prisoners, natives or inhabitants of Galway, or the islands of Arran, were to be liberated without ransom; and all ship goods or merchandize, taken by land or sea, going to, or coming from the town, were to be restored. A breach of the articles was to be deemed only the act of the person com-

blood, I could wish that this tenderness had in the beginning possest your spirits; but how such a cessation can be satisfactory to the parliament of England appears not to mee, seeing they have bene at soe vast a charge in their preparations for the putting a speedy issue to this war, which, by the Lord's assistance, shall be heartily persecuted by your servant,
 “Edmund Ludlowe.
 “Dublin, 19th March, 1651.”—Council Book.

mitting it. The lord president, Coote, was to procure them to be ratified and confirmed, within twenty days by the commissioners, and also to be secured by an act of parliament. Sir Valentine Blake, Sir Oliver Ffrench, John Blake, esq. and Dominick Blake, were to be delivered as hostages; and, finally, the new castle at Tirellan and the fort in Mutton-island were to be surrendered by twelve o'clock at noon on the day following.¹⁹ These were the conditions upon which the town of Galway surrendered to the parliamentary forces, and which will for ever remain an indelible memorial of the perseverance and bravery of its inhabitants, who, after a siege of nine months, during which they suffered every human privation, at length succeeded in obtaining such articles as, if honorably observed, would have had no other effect on the town than that of transferring its allegiance to the then ruling power; but how flagitiously they were afterwards, infringed in every particular, will appear in the sequel.

Sir Charles Coote, without delay, transmitted an account of his proceedings to the commissioners of the parliament, in Dublin, for their approbation. His dispatches arrived on the 11th of April at the castle, and, though it was then the hour of midnight, a council of war was immediately summoned. The articles were taken into consideration, and, having been unanimously considered as too favorable to the besieged, several resolutions were entered into, which were almost entirely subversive of their spirit and meaning. The result of this conference was dispatched back that night, in order, if at all practicable, to prevent the ratification of the treaty, or if it should, in the mean time, be concluded, to have their counter-resolutions, explanatory of its meaning, signed as soon after as possible; but they arrived too late for the former purpose, and the latter was justly rejected by the inhabitants, as an open violation and infringement of the articles. The town was surrendered on the 12th, and colonel Peter Stubbers marched in with two companies of foot. The commissioners at Dublin exculpated themselves to the council of state and parliament in England from having consented to the articles, but, at the same time, stated that Sir Charles Coote, in granting them, had, in their judgment, acted very faithfully, and conceived that what he consented to was for the service of the state; and, if he had not made those concessions, there was great possibility that more troops would be brought into the town, which would have kept all the forces in those parts occupied during the summer. From the moment the articles were signed, it was resolved to violate them. Coote informed the commissioners, that if the parliament ordered that no Irish or Papists should be permitted to reside in any garrison in Ireland, he was sure the inhabitants of Galway would declare themselves bound by such a law, and that they would not insist upon the articles. By these and similar contrivances they were gradually evaded, not, however, without leaving a perpetual stain on the character of the then unprincipled rulers of the country.

¹⁹ See the articles of surrender at full in the Appendix.

With feelings of the deepest emotion, the attention of the reader will now be turned towards the state of affairs within this devoted and unhappy though once prosperous and flourishing, town, whose inhabitants were the first in Ireland that took up arms in defence of their religion and king, and the last, either in Great Britain or Ireland, that laid them down. The surrender was followed by a famine throughout the country, by which multitudes perished. This was again succeeded by a plague, which carried off thousands both in the town and the surrounding districts; so that the severest vengeance of heaven seemed now to have been poured down on the heads of this devoted community. Many, driven to despair by the severities inflicted upon them, instead of avoiding the pestilence, sought refuge in death from their merciless persecutors. This dreadful visitation continued for two years, during which upwards of one-third of the population of the province was swept away, and those who survived were doomed to undergo sufferings to which even death itself was preferable. Col. Stubbers, who was appointed military governor of the town upon its surrender, under pretence of taking up vagrants and idle persons, made frequent nightly excursions, with armed troops, into the country, and seized upwards of a thousand people, often without discrimination of rank or condition, whom he transported to the West Indies, and there had sold as slaves.²⁰ But the town was the great scene of persecution. Immediately after the surrender, a contribution, amounting to four hundred pounds monthly, was imposed contrary to the articles, which terminated in the total ruin of the inhabitants. This excessive charge was exacted with the utmost severity. An author who was then in the town relates,²¹ that unless it was paid to the last farthing, at a certain hour, every Saturday, of which notice was given by beat of drum or sounding of trumpets, the soldiers rushed to the houses of the inhabitants, and, with their muskets pointed to the breasts of the inmates, threatened them with immediate death, unless paid whatever they thought proper to demand; and when, from the continual payments, the town's people were unable any longer to discharge it, such articles of household furniture as the soldiery could find, even to the clothes of the women, were seized, and sold in the market-place for whatever they would bring; so that, according to this author, the return of Saturday being the period of payment and visitation, seemed to the inhabitants to realize the idea formed of the day of judgment, the sounding of the trumpets striking them with almost equal terror.

Henceforth the most violent acts of oppression and injustice openly took place without any control. The king's arms and every other emblem of royalty were torn down; upwards of fifty of the Catholic clergy were shipped

²⁰ These proceedings, aided by the plague and sword, nearly depopulated the whole country, and caused such a scarcity of people and so much enhanced the value of labour, that it became a matter of general complaint, in those times, that the wages of a common labourer, independently of meat and drink, had arisen to 4l.13s. yearly, and that of an ordinary woman servant so high as 30s.—“Annals.”

²¹ Lynch, in *vita Kirovani*.

to the islands of Arran and Bophin, until they could be transported to the West Indies; and, being allowed but two pence a day each for their support, they were nearly famished. The churches and abbies were converted into stables for the dragoons, the chalices and sacred vessels used as drinking cups, and the old and valuable libraries of the clergy burnt or sold to the shops. The mayor and aldermen, though expressly protected by the articles, were repeatedly abused and dragged to prison, for daring to remonstrate with the licentious soldiery, who set no bounds to their brutality and violence.²²

The inhabitants having repeatedly, but in vain, appealed to the governor against these atrocities, at length ventured to represent their grievances to the commissioners in Dublin:²³ they received, however, such replies as shewed they were to expect no relief from that quarter. After several specious and evasive answers, to preserve the appearance of justice, orders of reference were made to the very persons complained of: they were finally informed that the articles of surrender, being still under consideration in England, could not be interfered with; and they were thus dismissed, to undergo even worse treatment than before for at all presuming to complain.

In the mean time the state was not inattentive to the security of the town. The east and west citadels were built, and several new outworks added

²² The Annals relate, that their avarice went so far as to break open the tombs, and root the dead bodies out of their graves, in hopes of finding riches interred with them; and that when disappointed, they left the carcasses uncovered, so that they were often found mangled and eaten by the dogs.—Annals.

²³ The following extract from their memorial, or "list of grievances," presented on this occasion, will give the reader some idea of the abject condition to which this once flourishing population was now reduced.

"Grievances.

"The poor distressed petitioners humbly represent unto your honors, that the commissioners of this precinct doe not give due respect to the mayor, but upon all occasions, at their pleasure, imprison him with his aldermen.

"That whereas their tenants in the east and west franchises of the said towne, who might give a considerable assistance towards the payment of their contribution as being there resident with their stock these seventeen months paste, are taken from them, and joyned with other baronies; and our merchants abroad, who did contribute to their charges, upon the last diffidend, are charged abroad, and exempted from the petitioners, which is an inequality done to the corporation, as they humbly conceive, wherein they desire your honors relief.

"That three parts in eight of the

tythes, great and small, of the parish of St. Nicholas, was invested in the mayors, of Gallway, and their predecessors before them, successively, time beyond the memory of man, until, about a year and a halfe ago, the same was disposed of by the commissioners without answering any reservation thereout: their humble request is, for the establishment of their possession and payment of the rent incurred for the time past, pursuant to their capitulation.

"The said mayor doth further offer unto your honors, that his demesne lands in Rinmore, in the franchises of Gallway, were disposed of by the commissioners to the use of the horse of the garrison without answering any rent therefore, this yeare and a halfe back, being his chief subsistence, contrary to their articles, wherein hee desires your honors relief.

"That petitioners being an ancient colonie of English, planted in this nook of the country, have been, by the crown of England, endowed with charters, grants and imunities, as also with the charter custom of the said towne held by the said corporation without interruption, time beyond the memory of man, and to them expressly secured by their articles made upon the surrender of the said towne, yet the commissioners permit them not to enjoy same; they therefore pray your honors order for the quiet enjoyment thereof without molestation."—Council Book.

to the east fortifications. It also appears that the very men who were hourly violating all the laws of religion and humanity, with their usual consistency of character, now considered it necessary to erect a meeting-house "for the service of GOD," the expenses of which they took care should be defrayed by applotment on the Catholic inhabitants. The question concerning the articles of surrender having been at length decided in England against them, contrary to the public faith, and to every law of nature and nations, the final destruction of the inhabitants was now determined upon. The first step taken was to extinguish the old corporation; and accordingly, upon a petition from the "English Protestant inhabitants" of the town, an order was made by the council of state, on the 25th of October, 1654, that the mayor and other chief officers should be "English and Protestants," and in case the then mayor or other chief officers were "Irish or Papists," that they should be removed. This order was immediately carried into execution; and Thomas Lynch Fitz-Ambrose, the mayor, John Blake, the recorder, and Richard Lynch and Anthony French Fitz-Peter, the sheriffs, were deposed; and, in their place, colonel Peter Stubbers, the governor, was appointed mayor, Robert Clarke recorder, and Paul Dodd and Marcus Lynch Fitz-Thomas²⁴ sheriffs. The English soldiers were next made free, and the old members of the corporation finally disfranchised.

This measure was only the prelude to others more serious: it was next determined to banish all the native inhabitants out of the town, and to supply their place with an English colony. An order was accordingly made by the lord deputy and council, on the 23d of July, 1655, that all persons who claimed or had any right to any houses or other real estate, within or contiguous to the town, being popish recusants, should remove themselves and their families thereout before the 1st of November then ensuing, being paid, pursuant to the articles, their full value; and, in case they should refuse or neglect to do so, the officers and soldiers were required to remove them.²⁵ Before the time limited for compliance with this ordinance had expired, another was issued more immediate in its operation; for "the state taking into consideration the extraordinary strength of the

²⁴ This individual, according to tradition, was the only native of Galway who changed his principles and religion, and joined the common enemy of both; in consequence of which, all communication was denied him by his friends during his life, and he is said to have died of a broken heart, occasioned by remorse and shame for his apostacy.

²⁵ Council Book, A9, page 52.—On the 18th of October, colonel Richard Lawrence and Thomas Richardson, esq. were deputed to value the castles and houses. Their appointment was renewed on the 30th, and they were directed to survey and appraise the houses in Galway; and all proprietors that desired it, under their

hands, were to have liberty until the 10th of November, 1656, to make sale of their interests to any Protestant that had not been in arms, or otherwise disaffected; the third part of the purchase-money to go to the commonwealth. Such houses as should not be sold by the proprietors before the 14th of December 1655, to be disposed of for a year's time by the governor to any Protestant not having been in arms against the commonwealth; provided that the governor "do engage such as shall take the same, that no waste or spoil should be committed on the houses that stand empty and undisposed of, or suffer same to be spoiled or wasted by the soldiers."—Id.

town, and the great intercourse the inhabitants had for many ages with the dominions of the king of Spain, and conceiving it probable that the Spaniard might entertain more than common hopes from that circumstance, under colour of giving succour to the king of Scots," (Charles II.) they accordingly, on the 30th of October, ordered, "that all the Irish and other popish inhabitants should be forthwith removed out of the town, in order that accommodation should be provided for such English Protestants, whose integrity to the State would entitle them to be trusted in a place of such importance." This order was carried into effect by Coote, the lord president, with unrelenting severity.²⁶ The wretched inhabitants, without distinction of rank or sex, except a few who were oppressed by sickness and years, were driven out of the town in the midst of winter, (which was, at the time, peculiarly severe,) and were forced to take shelter by the ditches and in poor cabins in the country, without fire or sufficient clothing, in consequence of which many fell victims to the uncommon inclemency of the season. Thus deprived of its inhabitants, who were succeeded only by soldiery, the town presented the appearance of a military camp, without either order or regularity, and soon fell to decay. The superb houses, which, in the language of the Annals, were "fit to lodge kings and princes," and are described as the best built and most splendidly furnished of any in the kingdom, were seized upon and occupied by the lowest of the populace, until they were completely ruined. The

26 On the 7th of November Coote made a report of his proceedings in "clearing the town" under this order, in which he states, that he had "dispensed only with a few persons, who, through extreme age and sickness, and the unseasonableness of the weather, were unable to remove, but that the security of the place was well provided for."—Council Book.—In return for this communication he received the thanks of the State, but was cautioned to take care that the few, so dispensed with, should be removed as soon as the season would permit; it being their desire "that so considerable a place should be entirely inhabited by Protestants"; and he was further directed, that in the interim, and until the town should be better inhabited, he should "prevent any spoil being made of the houses within the towne, either by the souldiers or others, who, without due care, would be apt to injure them upon all occasions; as also that they should be kept staunch and in good repayre, in a condition to be tenanted at considerable rents, which that place yielded in former times more than any other city of this nation."—Council Book.

This was followed, on the 19th of November, by further instructions to Coote wherein he was ordered to "take care;—1. That a draw well be sunk in

the most convenient place within the east citidell of the city of Galway.—2. That three platforme be forthwith raised wherever it would be conceived would most tend to the publick service.—3. That the several houses within the citidell be repaired.—4. To keep within the towne twenty Irish masons and workmen;—and, 5. That the priests or fryars, now imprisoned within the town, that are above the age of forty years, be forthwith banished into France, Portugal, and other neighbouring kingdoms in amity with this commonwealth; and that the rest of the priests, that are under the age of forty years be forthwith shipt away for Barbadoes or other the American plantations; and to give public notice, that in case any of them return without licence, they shall be proceeded against according to the laws;"—i.e. punished with death.—Id.

On 1st September, 1656, another order issued, "that the governor of the city of Galway do forthwith remove thereout all Irish Papists, and that no Irish be permitted to inhabit therein, unless disabled to remove through extreme old age or sickness, or bed-ridden." It was also ordered, "that he should cause the weekly markets to be kept outside the city till further orders."—Id. A. 10. p. 163.

trifling trade which recently remained had now entirely ceased; and the town, thus circumstanced, resembled a rich bee-hive plundered of its treasures, while its industrious people lay smothered and destroyed.

The work of destruction being thus complete, the ruinous situation to which this unfortunate town was now reduced, at length forced itself on the attention of the governing party; and an expedient was soon devised, which it was supposed would remedy all that had been done. An act was passed in the parliament of England, on the 17th of September, 1656, "for the ascertaining and effectual setting out of lands and houses in Ireland, in consideration of losses sustained by Anthony Edwards and others, the well-affected inhabitants of the city of Gloucester," during the siege which that city sustained against the royal forces in 1642. The intentions of this act not being yet carried into execution, Henry Cromwell, the lord deputy, embraced this as a favorable opportunity for planting Galway with English settlers, to whom the forfeited lands and houses could be disposed of to the amount of 10,000*l.* being the compensation to be made to Gloucester. Having accordingly consulted the council in Dublin on the subject, he forwarded dispatches to England on the 7th of April, wherein, after stating that the public would suffer considerably, if some speedy and effectual course were not immediately taken for planting the town of Galway, he adds, "His highness hath too perfect an understanding of that place, as wee need not add much; howbeit we may be bold to say, ~~that~~ for the situation thereof, voisenage and commerce it hath with Spaine, the straits, West Indies and other places, noe towne or port in the three nations (London excepted) was more considerable, nor, in all probability, would more encourage trade abroad or manufactures at home, than this, if well improved. It is a towne made very defensive both by art and nature, and consists of many noble buildings, uniform, and most of them of marble, which that country hath plenty of; yet by reason of the late horrid rebellion and generall waste then and since made by the impoverisht English inhabiting there, many of the houses are become very ruinous; and inasmuch as there appears more encouragement for this new plantation than formerly (*for that noe Irish are permitted to live in the city, or within three miles thereof,* the better to accommodate the inhabitants with conveniences, the place becomes better secured,) and merchants have more hopeful gain by trade, than when the interest of the towne was in the Irish and other Papists that lived there." It was then proposed that the town and lands about it, and other lands near Athlone, and at Ballinrobe, in Mayo, or such part as should be thought fit, should be sold to the corporation of Gloucester, by whom the town could be colonized; and he concluded by recapitulating the many advantages which would result from such an undertaking. The project was favorably received by Cromwell, and agreed to by the citizens of Gloucester, who sent over doctor Thomas Clarges, as their agent, to transact the business.

A survey of the forfeited lands was accordingly made,²⁷ of which Dr. Clarges was put into possession. The several forfeited houses in the town were also surveyed and valued by captain William Webb and James Hinds;²⁸ and although they were, on the 17th of February, 1657, declared to be in the real and actual possession of Anthony Edwards and Thomas Whitcombe, in trust for the purposes contained in the Gloucester act, yet no immediate exertions were made to promote the plantation. But Cromwell having, just about that time, ordered that another sum of 10,000*l.* which had been formerly allowed the town of Liverpool for its losses in the parliamentary interest, should be satisfied out of the remainder of the houses in Galway, the lord deputy again pressed the subject of the colonization and improvement of the town, as well on the inhabitants of Liverpool as those of Gloucester. He represented to them, that for building, situation and strength, the town was of very great importance to the security of the nation; was most advantageously situated for trade, having the sea open, and free for Spain, the Straits, the Indies and other places; and that, before the rebellion, it was inhabited by many wealthy and flourishing inhabitants; and that it would concern them to use their utmost diligence for speedily planting the place with English Protestants, by whom the houses, then ruinous, might be repaired, and commerce, which was then utterly decayed, might be revived. The reader may anticipate that all these designs proved abortive; the wished-for plantation never took place, having been perhaps only prevented by the unexpected and happy revolution which immediately afterwards followed.

The appalling scene of atrocities, hitherto opened to the view of the reader, is now drawing to a close. On the 15th of September, 1658, Richard Cromwell was proclaimed lord protector in Galway, with great rejoicings. The contemptible corporation of the day, having no more victims to persecute, began to quarrel amongst themselves; and their disputes became so violent that the government was obliged to interfere, and threatened to annul the charter, and abolish their privileges. On the 7th of August, 1659, an order issued to apprehend lord Clanricarde, Sir Richard Blake, and the other principal gentlemen of the county; and on the 22d, colonel Thomas Sadlier, the governor, was ordered to remove "all the Irish Papists" out of the town and liberties, and not permit them to return without licence from the commander of the forces. Other instances of persecution afterwards occurred, but they gradually decreased, both in number and severity; and some appearance of moderation and justice was finally introduced, and for a while established, by the restoration.

27 See the Appendix.—This survey was transmitted to the lord deputy and council by Mr. James Cuffe, one of the commissioners, by which it appeared, that seven hundred and sixty-three and a half acres were situate in the liberties of Galway, two hundred in the barony of Athlone, and two thousand near Ballinrobe, in the county of Mayo, all which were valued at 889*l.* 4*s.*—Rot. Pat. Rolls Office.

28 The schedules of these valuations, which are also given in the Appendix, cannot but prove particularly interesting to the descendants of the old families of Galway. The houses in the town were valued, at six years purchase, to 9110*l.* 8*s.* which, with the value of the land, was within eight shillings of the 10,000*l.*—Rot. Pat.

CHAP. VI.

FROM 1660 TO THE SURRENDER OF GALWAY TO KING
WILLIAM'S FORCES, 1691.

On the Restoration of Charles II. many of the new settlers disappear, and the old natives and former inhabitants return—Letters of the king to the lords justices, to restore them to their freedom and estates—Animosities and disputes between them and the new settlers—An instance of one of these contentions—Prejudice of the lords justices against the old natives—Opposition given to their claims—Excluded from corporate privileges, and finally expelled the town—New rules established—The corporation lands, with the charter and market duties, granted to Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton—The earl of Essex, lord lieutenant, opposes the grant—His description of the decayed state of the town—Colonel Theodore Russell purchases the charter and market duties, and is elected mayor—The king grants a new charter, containing many ample privileges—Population of the town considerably diminished, and the houses falling to ruin—Many of the old natives give security and are permitted to return to the town—They are soon after obliged to depart, owing to the clamors and discontent of some members of the corporation—Address to the king, on his escape from the Rye-house conspiracy—Accession of James II. to the throne—The Catholic inhabitants return to the town, and made free of the corporation—Catholic clergy established in the town—New charter granted—Troubles begin, and the fortifications of the town repaired—Resolutions to adhere to king James and his government—Protestant inhabitants removed out of the town—Battle of Aughrim—Siege of the town—It surrenders on articles—Treatment of the Roman Catholics—Fortifications built, to secure the conquest of the town and the islands.

ON the restoration of Charles II. such of the new settlers in Galway as were distinguished for the violence of their principles, or their hatred of the royal cause, apprehending prosecution and punishment, suddenly disappeared, while as many of the old natives, as survived the past scenes of destruction, hailed with joy an event from which they expected, according to the king's repeated declarations, not only the termination, but also the reward, of their manifold sufferings, and particularly the restitution of their usurped privileges and estates. Accordingly, one of the first acts of the king, after entering upon the exercise of his royal function, was an order to reinstate the ancient inhabitants of Galway in the possession of their properties and privileges, directed to the lords justices of Ireland, of the following tenor :

“ Charles R.

For inasmuch as the ancient inhabitants, freemen and natives of our

towne of Gallway, in our kingdome of Ireland, have held town for us against a siege of nine months, being encouraged and commanded thereunto by our several letters, and was the last towne of consequence, in that that our kingdome, that held out for us against the usurped power; and whereas the said ancient inhabitants, freemen and natives, and our garrison there being reduced to necessity, have, at the rendition of the said towne, made quarter, and obtained articles of warre from the commander in chief of the army besieging the said towne; by which articles, bearing date the 5th day of April, 1652, amongst other things, they were to enjoy their freedoms, privileges and immunities, and their respective interests, houses and estates, in such manner as in the said articles are mentioned; upon consideration whereof, after full debate of that matter, at a committee of our privy councill, appointed for Irish affairs, wee thought it reasonable and just to allow and make good unto the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, the benefit of the said articles.—It is, therefore, our will and pleasure, and we do hereby order and require, that the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, and all other persons in the said articles comprised, shall have and henceforth enjoy all and singular the benefits, advantages, libertyes, freedoms, privileges and immunities, and all and singular the houses, estates, lands, tenements and hereditaments within the said town of Gallway and libertyes thereof, and elsewhere, which were promised unto them in or by the said articles, as by the instrument thereof, perfected by you, Sir Charles Coote, earl of Mountrath, bearing date as aforesaid, unto which we refer you, shall appeare; and we do hereby require you to cause this our royall pleasure and commande to be duly executed as fully and as amply, for the advantage of the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, and others comprised, as the said articles and instrument aforesaid doth express, which you are there upon the place to peruse, examine and allowe, without other or future explanations or expositions there, as the same was concluded on the rendition of the said town: and we are likewise pleased, and it is our will, order and commande, that the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, shall have and be allowed such further addition of grace as you shall find us engaged unto by our royal letters, or they can justly claime by the articles of peace concluded there in the yeare 1648: and in as much as we are informed, by the duke of Ormonde, that divers of the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, have in a more eminent manner than others, and in the worst of tymes, gyven testimony of their loyalty and affection to us, we require you particularly to inform yourselves of the said persons, and to treat, use and esteeme them as persons in a more speciall manner meritting of us, and accordingly to countenance, favour and settle them in the same measure as we have provided for others by express names in our declaration. And it is our royall will and pleasure, and we require all persons concerned to give ready obedience to these our commandes and order, as they will answer the contrary at their perills. And, for the more speedy and effectuall execution thereof, it is our will and pleasure that you issue and give your effectuall orders unto our commissioners appointed for

executing of our publike declaration and to all our commissioners, officers and ministers, who are or shall be employed or concerned in restoring of persons restorable, to cause this our order to be put in speedy and due execution; alsoe that you give order to our barons of our court of Exchequer, attorney and solicitor-generall, and other officers there concerned, to cause all and every matters and things remaining in charge upon the houses and estates of any of the said persons, who are to be restored by virtue of this our order, to be putt out of charge, without further charge, plea or suite, other than the ancient charge; and likewise that you command the trustees appointed for settling the securitys for arreares, before the 5th of June, 1649, and all persons deriving from them, to suffer the said inhabitants, freemen and natives, and other persons before mentioned, without interruption, to possess and enjoy their severall estates, whereunto they are to be restored as aforesaid, and the profitts thereof, notwithstanding any disposall made or to be made by the commissioners whatsoever; for all which, this shall be to you, and all persons concerned, a sufficient warrant.—Given at our court, at Whitehall, the 17th day of June, in the thirteenth year of our reigne.

By his majesties command.”

This gracious and equitable mark of the royal favor, however sincere and well intentioned the motives of the king might then have been, proved but but of little use to those for whom it was intended. Party feelings ran so high in the nation, that their claims were drowned amidst the general clamour of discontent: but the inveterate prejudices of the men in power against their religious principles operated more powerfully against them than any other cause. The king's declaration, also, as might reasonably have been expected, occasioned several animosities and disputes between the old natives, who reclaimed their properties, and such of the newcomers as remained in the town, and who, depending on the partiality and protection of the existing government, resolved to run all hazards rather than tamely surrender their newly-acquired possessions. In order to convey a general idea of the feelings by which those contending parties were then agitated, an occurrence which took place between two of the most respectable of the disputants is here selected as a specimen of the remainder. Robert Martin, of Ross, one of the natives of the town, having obtained an order from the king to be restored to the possession of his mansion-house in Galway, which was then in the occupation of Edward Eyre, the recorder, (and one of the members recently elected to represent the town in the new parliament,) he came to Galway to demand possession, which being refused, complaint was made to the lords justices that the occupant, Mr. Eyre, not only refused to obey the king's order, but also declared, “that he denied the king to be the only head or chief governor of the kingdom, and that he did not value his order at eighteen pence.” Upon receiving this information, the lords justices directed the attorney-general to lay it before the commons: the accused member was immediately summoned; and he delivered in a written statement, totally denying the charge, and challenging

an immediate investigation²⁹. After some further communications and delays, the house at length came to a resolution, that there were no grounds for the complaint; and the recorder, having received some handsome encomiums for his loyalty and integrity to his majesty, was unanimously acquitted. This injudicious proceeding, on the part of the accusers, proved considerably injurious to the interest of the old proprietors, and equally serviceable to the new; for it served not only to prejudice the minds of the lords justices against the former, but also to increase and strengthen the opposition of their opponents; insomuch that, from the previously ruined state of their finances, the resistance and delays now given to their claims, and the consequent heavy expenses attending the prosecution of

²⁹ Answer of Edward Eyre, Esq.

"Robert Martine, of Rosse, accompanied with his son-in-law, Isidorus Lynch, came to the house in Galway where I now live, the property formerly of said Robert, about some business, which being ended, the said Robert, in a jesting manner, asked me, what I would say if he should have his house again; to which I replied, "With all my heart, Robert; I hope you will admit me your tenant, for I have bestowed much in repairs, and I have been civil to your niece and children, to whom I have given room in the said house;" to which the said Robert answered, "Yes, in good faith have you, and you shall be tenant for a year and a day, and no longer." I then asked him, upon what account he was so confident of his house; he replied, "I have an order in my pocket from the king to be restored to it." I then demanded of him, whether his order was confirmed or allowed of by the lords justices, pursuant to the late proclamation grounded on his majesty's letter, "that, whereas many orders were by the Irish surreptitiously gotten, etc.," to which the said Robert replied, "In faith it is not." I then told him, "I did believe it would not be worth three pence unto him;" whereupon Isidorus Lynch said, "Hath my order cost me sixty pounds to our agents, and now not worth three pence? you may as well deny the king's authority." I replied, "No, I deny that," meaning his inference.—After this there was some jesting discourse of their agents, and what moneys they had given them, and then we friendly parted, without any distaste. They, leaving me, met with one Deane, Lynch, French, and other natives of Galway, who fell into discourse, that they had gotten orders for to return into the said town, and be as free as ever they were; to which Martine replied, "You may be deceived, for I was with the recorder lately, who told me, our orders, if not confirmed, would not be worth three pence." Nicholas French replied, that it was high treason and undervaluation of the king's authority to say, our orders were not worth

three pence. The next day, French, captain Martine, and five or six more of them, went into Mr. Bernard's house, and told him that I had spoken treason and that they had written unto the Lord chancellor of it, and did not doubt but to hinder my sitting in the house. Mr. Bernard immediately came to me, and acquainted me with all they said, and desired me to take notice of it, for he was confident they would do all the mischief they could. I replied, I valued not their malice on that account, and took no further notice of it. In the afternoon the said Bernard came again unto me, where were present the mayor, aldermen, and about twenty gentlemen of the town, and with them the aforesaid Martine, and told me, that those Irish had been again at his house, and ranted high what they would do against me; whereupon I desired a warrant from the mayor, and sent a serjeant and arrested Nicholas French and captain Lynch, who persuaded the serjeant to bring them unto me. French demanded of me, wherefore I arrested him; I told him because he had scandalized and threatened me, he answered, He never heard me speak a word, but that Robert Martine, then present, told him I had spoken treason; to which the said Robert answered, "Thou art a drunken, trepanning, lying knave:" and the said Martine being desired by some present to relate what was said by me, in a jesting discourse of their orders. I did say, "that unless they were allowed and confirmed by the lords justices, they would not be worth them three pence;" and there was not one word spoken relating to the king or his government. I told the said Lynch, if he or any others had any thing to say against me, they should give in their testimonies before the mayor: he answered, he heard me say nothing, but that Martine told him so; but perceiving he must go to prison, he fell into a great passion, and bid the sheriff take him into custody, for I was a rebel and a traitor. The next day, I intending for Dublin, he prevailed with several of the townsmen to mediate with me for his release, alleging that he was

them, they were in general either defeated, or abandoned in despair, and left unfinished; in consequence of which, very little benefit, as before observed, was derived from the king's declaration in their favor; and whatever part of their ancient patrimony the descendants of the natives afterwards possessed in the town, was principally obtained by purchase from the new possessors, whose titles, however acquired, have been ratified and indiscriminately confirmed by grants and leases from the crown³⁰. They were also continued in all the offices of the corporation; and although several writs of *Quo warranto* had been brought against them for exercising jurisdiction as a corporate body, and judgment finally obtained, they still retained their power in the town, through the influence of the duke of Ormond, and were ultimately triumphant over all opposition. Thus disappointed in their expectations of being restored to their properties, and that, chiefly, through the indifference or ingratitude of a prince in whose cause they had been sacrificed, the ancient natives felt the less regret at their subsequent expulsion from the town, and consequent exclusion from all those corporate privileges and freedoms which they had formerly exercised, and which had been so honorably acquired and so long enjoyed by their ancestors. They withdrew, therefore, to brood in silence over their wrongs, but fully resolved, however, as the sequel will show, to embrace with avidity any opportunity that might present itself to redress them.

The town continued to be governed under its former charters until the year 1672, when the "new" rules, orders and directions were made and established by the lord lieutenant and council, pursuant to the act of explana-

drunk, and in these fits he would abuse any one; that it would be his undoing, if I should leave him in gaol; whereupon he was sent for, and, before many witnesses, acknowledged that he had injured me, and was sorry for it. I then gave order to have the action withdrawn, he finding sureties to appear the next assizes, who did so; but after I came to Dublin, the said French went railing through the streets, shewing a letter, and reading of it, a copy whereof he said he had sent to my lord chancellor; whereupon he was again arrested, and, as I am informed, he then wrote to Patrick D'Arey, who gave in the information that Mr. Attorney moved in this honourable house, &c.—This all I know and can say in answer to the said information, the contents whereof will be attested by many witnesses.

"Edward Eyre,"

"27th July, 1661.

Com. Jour. Vol I., p. 439.

³⁰ An inquisition taken in the tholsel, on 1st March 1664, finds "that the lands commonly called or known by the name of Fort-hill, were part of the abbey of St. Augustine; and that same, with other abbey-lands, were invested in the crown in the reign of Henry VIII. That a fort for his majesty's use was erected

on part of those lands, and continued in his possession until 1643, when it was surrendered by captain Willoughby to John Bourke and others, commanding the Irish forces, by whom it was demolished by order of the supreme council. Who received the issues and profits since, the jury could not find; but before the fort was erected, Nicholas D'Arey, deceased, was the reputed proprietor of the premises, and since the surrender there were several possessors, but under what title they could not find, and saw the lands contain, by estimation, twelve acres. That upon the lands of Ballymanagh, the foundation of a fort, and a good part of the walls thereof, were laid and erected for his majesty's use, about the year 1625, which continued in his possession, and in the custody of John Turner, deceased, until 1641, when it was entrusted to the charge of Sir Richard Blake, knight, by the lords justices and council; it contains, by estimation, one acre, but they cannot find any known proprietor thereof except his majesty. That the lands of Mutton-island, containing by estimation, three acres, were made use of in common by the inhabitants of Galway and the liberties thereof.—Orig. Inq. Rolls Office.

tion "for the better regulating of the corporation and town of Galway, and the electing of magistrates and officers there." By these rules, which have the force and effect of an act of parliament,—1. The names of the mayor, sheriffs, recorder, or town-clerk, to be annually elected for ever thereafter, are to be forthwith, presented for approbation to the lord lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors, and the privy council; and if they or any of them be not approved of within ten days, a new election shall take place, except in cases of such as die in their year of office.—2. The warden to be nominated by the lord lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors of the kingdom, for the time being.—3. All officers of the corporation to take the oaths of supremacy and allegiance, and also that against taking arms against the king.³¹ —4. All officers to be elected by the mayor, sheriffs and common council: all matters in debate first to pass the common council before being propounded in tholsel, and offenders disfranchised.—5. All foreigners, strangers and aliens, as well others as Protestants, being merchants, traders, artisans, artificers, seamen or otherwise, then residing or to come to reside in the town, to be admitted freemen during residence and habitation, and to be deemed denizens of the kingdom, on payment of a fine of twenty shillings, first taking the oaths and paying charges any person, magistrate, or otherwise, refusing to admit such, or interrupting them when admitted, to be disfranchised.—These rules, which were in effect the same that regulated the other cities, walled-towns and corporations of the kingdom at the time, although introduced into the succeeding charter, continue in force to the present day.³²

The reader will not be surprised that the same king, who had so ungratefully permitted the injustice that had taken place against the former inhabitants of Galway, and that, after spilling their blood and wasting their treasures in his cause, would equally disregard the interests of their succes-

31 "This, which was called the "little oath," was taken away by statute, 4 Geo. I. 3.

32 Alderman Edward Eyre, after so triumphantly defeating the charge brought against him by the ancient natives, became the principal ruler of the town and corporation, whose affairs he regulated as he thought proper. On 20th April, 1670, he caused them to grant a lease to trustees for his use, for 99 years, at the rent of 3l. yearly, of the principal part of the corporation property adjoining the town, viz.

"The small house on the town wall, wherein Robert Brown formerly dwelt, with so much of the void place as the breadth of the said house, takes up within ten foot of the key-gate round by the town wall.

"The void place opposite Barrachalla, alias the wood-key, along the river to Suekeen, and to the stone-gate and causeway about to the cabins on the south side, leaving a sufficient highway, not

exceeding twenty foot, between it and the opposite cabins.

"The lower part of the green, from the east side of the flanker pointing to the causeway, leading to Fort-hill along it till mears with the meadle, and so to John Thom's house, at the beginning of the lane, leaving sufficient room for the common highway mearing with the south and south-west, with the ancient bounds of Fort-hill.

"The waste place on the backside of Thomas Williams's garden, bounded by the pool on the south side, round to the jetty on stones that joins with the place called the exchange on the key on the west-side, and bounded on the south-east, eastward, with the bounds of Fort-hill.

"The tiled shed on the key, a small place or dunghill in the river for erecting a mill beyond the west gate, and the cabins on the green, under the citadel on the marketplace in the east."—Regist. Office, 3d July, 1712.

sors in the corporation, who, he was well aware, became his friends merely from necessity, and would remain so only so long as it was consistent with their interest. Of this he now gave a striking instance. During the civil war, the town's-people mortgaged, at different times and to several persons, almost the entire of the corporation property, consisting of their lands, and the 'charter and market duties,³³ for several sums of money, which they handed over to the duke of Ormond and marquis of Clanricarde for the king's service. After the restoration the mortgagees were found to be forfeiting persons; and the premises having become vested in the king under, the acts of settlement and explanation, he accordingly, by letters patent, dated 5th December, 1673,³⁴ granted the entire to Elizabeth Hamilton, widow of James Hamilton, esq. one of the grooms of his majesty's bed-chamber, and to her heirs. This unexpected exercise of a dormant right, which it was supposed was obsolete, and such as would never have been thought of, or at least revived, against the present corporation, created considerable alarm. Mrs. Hamilton's agent, Mathew Quin, for daring to assert her rights, though under pretence of having offered insult to the mayor, was thrown into prison, and every resistance was made against her in the town. She accordingly had recourse to chancery for redress, and, after some proceedings, which were defended by the mayor,³⁵ she succeeded in establishing her claim, and thus laid the groundwork of the future decay and monopoly of the corporation. The earl of Essex, then lord lieutenant, at first opposed this ruinous grant; but the king having expressly signified his pleasure that it should take place, his lordship was obliged to acquiesce. In a communication on the subject to the secretary in England, he states, "As to the affair of the town of Galway, between it and Mrs. Hamilton, &c., I cannot but tell you, that I apprehend this grant will be the ruin of that town. It was once a considerable place of trade, and one of the principal strengths of the kingdom: it furnished all the province of Connaught (it being the only frequented port there,) with foreign commodities; but now I hear the merchants are all leaving the

³³ Particulars of the corporation property mortgaged for the state, previous to 1652.

The charter customs, mortgaged to Nicholas Blake, George Lynch and others, for 2000l.

The market customs, with the duties and fees thereof, together with the market-house, mortgaged to John Blake, esq. late recorder, for 400l.

The lands of Shantallo, in the west liberties, mortgaged to Gregory and Peter Browne and Roebuck French for 130l.

The lands of Suckin, in the east liberties containing twelve acres, formerly set to John Blake for 99 years, at 6s.

Farranlosnona, in the west liberties, mortgaged to Jasper French for 40l.

Knockanegeherne, in the west liberties, mortgaged to alderman Patrick Martin and alderman Marcus Kirwan for 30l.

A close called Lacybehy, in said liberties, mortgaged to Martin Blake Fitz-Andrew for 30l. with a lease.

The close called the middle close, in the east liberties, mortgaged to the said Martin Blake for 45l.

The lands of Loghanecraggy in said liberties mortgaged to Thomas Lynch Fitz-Patrick for 80l.

Laghtybegg, in said liberties, mortgaged to John Browne and Andrew Quin for 60l.

Gortenover, in said liberties, mortgaged to Andrew Oge Blake for 85l.

The island of Altanagh, in the west liberties, bestowed by common seal to the nuns of St. Clara.—Rot. 25 Car. II. 3 p. f.

34 Irrot. 9th Dec. 1673.

35 Bill filed 28th January, 1673. Answer of Gregory Constable, the mayor, and others, 19th October, 1674.

place, and the gentlemen of that country are forced to send as far as this city (Dublin) for those things, whereof they used to be provided from thence."³⁶

Such was the melancholy state to which this once opulent town was reduced in the hands of its new possessors. The corporation, however, to prevent their utter ruin, solicited Theodore Russell, esq. a colonel in the army, who had amassed considerable wealth, and was then settled in the town, to enter into a negotiation with Mrs. Hamilton on the subject. He accordingly, on condition of being elected mayor, and continued in that office, purchased from her, in the year 1674, the charter, market and petty duties for 2,500l.³⁷ He was then elected, and served eleven years successively, during which time he continued in the exclusive receipt of those duties and customs;³⁸ and, encouraged by the commiseration expressed by the lord lieutenant for the decayed and ruinous state of the town, he

³⁶ State Letters. January 23d, 1674-5.

³⁷ Mrs. Hamilton afterwards disposed of all the lands to John Fitzpatrick, by whom they were assigned to John Kirwan, by deed, dated the 29th October, 1684.—Vide Chart. Jac. II.

³⁸ During this period colonel Russell experienced much opposition. On 1st August, 1679, apprehensive of being effectually opposed in his election, he had a resolution passed in council, that whoever was elected mayor for the ensuing year should serve without salary; and, although this secured his own return, he afterwards charged his usual stipend 200l. for that year. Their disputes also frequently descended into downright scurrility, of which an instance is given in the list of mayors and sheriffs. In 1680, the following account was drawn up against him by the other members of the corporation.

Colonel Theodore Russell, mayor of Galway, Dr.

To several sums received for charter duties, &c. from 21st July, 1674, to 30th Dec. 1676	-	-	-	1514	4	10
To charter duties received by Dominick Bodkin, by your order, from 30th Dec. 1676, to 25th March, 1680	1708	3	2½			
To John Vaughan, for rent of the market from 29th September, 1695, to 29th September, 1678, at 160l. per annum	480	0	0			
To same for rent of do. from 29th September, 1678, to 29th September, 1680	400	0	0			
To rent of the town lands for five years, from 29th September, 1675, to 29th September, 1680	274	18	4			
To the rent of the custom of the turf, at the bridge gate, for 2 years from 29th Sept. 1676, to 29th Sept. 1678	40	0	0			

To the charter duties of beef, from 21st July, 1674, to 29th September, 1680. No account being yet given of it, notwithstanding we know it to be due by charter

To the receipt of Dominick Bodkin, for goods shipt by coast cocquette - - - 11 2 5

We find the receipts of the several branches of the revenue of the town of Galway, from the 21st July, 1674, to the date hereof, to be as above stated, pursuant to order of the council of 4th June last. Dated 5th June, 1682.

Thomas Andrews, &c.

This account was read in council on the 16th October following, when the corporation was found indebted to colonel Russell in £1701 15s. 8d.—Corp. Book.—In 1684, when they considered him overpaid, they again required him to settle accounts, upon which he charged 2000l. for ten years salary, as mayor: this they disputed, alleging he undertook to serve the office gratis: and, on the 14th November, 1684, petitioned the lord lieutenant and council to refer the accounts to indifferent persons to report thereon. They were accordingly referred to the honourable captain Richard Coote, Sir John Jopham and Dr. John Coghill, whose investigation proving unfavourable to the mayor, an order was made by the lord justices and council, that he should give in security; and on the 25th April, 1685, the following entry appears on the records of the corporation: "colonel Russell hath this day delivered in council the following pledges, &c. one silver bowl of Walter Athy's, one silver tankard, one silver salt with a cover, and two gold rings of Marcus bane Lynch, and two pieces of stuff of Mr. George Davison's."—Corp. Book, C.—The change in public affairs which immediately after took place, prevented any further investigation.

and the rest of the corporation, in the year 1676, petitioned for a new charter, "for the encouragement of trade and his majesty's service in the town;" and that the great disbursements of Colonel Russell, "to redeem them from their lost condition, should be provided for, and further compensation made for his great pains and favour therein shewed unto them." This application was favourably received by the lord lieutenant; and accordingly the king, by charter, dated the 14th of August, 1676, ordained and granted that the town of Galway should, at all times, for ever thereafter, be one entire and free borough of itself, to be known by the name of the "town and borough of Galway;" and that the town, and all within *two miles* of it, in a direct line, should thenceforth be a county of itself, corporate and separate from the county of Galway, and be known by the name of the "county of the town of Galway;" provided always that judges of gaol delivery, justices of peace, sheriffs and other officers of the county at large, should have free ingress and regress, to hold their sessions, &c. in the town. That the corporation should consist of one mayor, two sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty, to be called and known by the name of the "mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty of the town and county of the town of Galway;" by which name they might purchase lands and goods, demise lands, and do all other things corporate, plead and be impleaded, and return members to parliament. The modern mayor, sheriffs, recorder and town clerk, were appointed, and their successors for ever thereafter, to be elective, and to hold for one year. That the mayor might appoint a deputy in case of sickness or absence, and that the usual oaths should be taken. That he and the recorder, and their deputies should be justices of the peace for the county of Galway; and directions were given for the election of Mayor, in case of death in office. That the sheriffs should be elective and all writs, bills, &c. for execution within the town, should be directed to them. That no other sheriff should enter the town to execute his office, except as before excepted. The names of the corporate officers to be presented, and the warden nominated pursuant to the "new" rules. That no officer should be capable of exercising his office until he should take the prescribed oaths; and, on refusal, his election to be void, unless dispensed with by government. That all officers should be chosen by the mayor, sheriffs and common council; and that no freeman should vote, if not of the council. That no matter should be proposed in the tholsel until first passed in council.—Regulations were then laid down as to the admission of foreigners, artisans, &c. to their freedom. A guild of merchants of the staple was appointed: also that the mayor sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty might have and use such several vestments, ensigns and ornaments, "for the honour and dignity of the town," as had been used before the 23rd day of October, 1641; and that the mayor should have a sword borne before him, "for the greater eminence of the mayoralty, or office of mayor." That they should have a tholsel wherein to assemble, and have full power and authority to make bye-laws, and punish for the breach of them, provided such bye-laws and punishment should be reasonable, and not repugnant to the laws of the

kingdom, or the "new" rules. That they should forever thereafter hold a weekly court on every Tuesday and Friday, before the Mayor and Recorder or their deputies, of all pleas and actions upon the case, trespass, &c. arising within the town and county of the town, and cause the defendants to be attached by their goods and chattels, or their bodies to be arrested and imprisoned. The king then confirmed unto them and their successors, for ever, all manors, messuages, houses, countries, lands, &c. possessed by their predecessors on the 22nd October, 1641, and all liberties, franchises, powers, authorities, &c. before that time granted unto them by any royal grants or charters, or enjoyed by any other right or title whatsoever, saving to Elizabeth Hamilton her rights in and to any lands formerly belonging to the corporation, and to Theodore Russell his right to the charter, market and petty duties and customs lately assigned by her; and it was specially ordained that the corporation should not demand or levy any of those customs, until he, his assigns or agents, should receive out of the same the sum of 2,500*l.* which he disbursed, and be also paid 300*l.* over and above, "as a reasonable compensation for the great pains and trouble undergone on behalf and for the good of the corporation:" after which they were to revert to the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty for ever.³⁹

For this ample extension of corporate privileges, the town was principally indebted to the earl of Essex, who evinced every inclination to promote its interest, and, if possible, to restore to its original state: but all exertions of this nature proved abortive, for, being deprived of its former respectable population, and possessed by a set of men their very opposite, both in principles and character, who were bred up to a military life, and mostly ignorant of any other pursuit, commerce entirely declined, and even the buildings, for want of inhabitants, were falling to the ground. This latter circumstance caused the agent of the duke of Ormond (his lordship having some time before obtained a grant of several forfeited houses in the town,) to represent, in the year 1679, to the corporation, "that by reason of the removal of the market and Irish inhabitants, a greate parte of the houses of the towne were falling down;" and he then inquired, "that such of the Irish of the said towne as should give security might be restored."⁴⁰ This, after much opposition, was complied with only through necessity. Several of the ancient names and families having accordingly entered intorecognizance for their peacable demeanour, were permitted to return, and the trade of the town immediately after began to revive.^{40a} This soon awakened the

39 Enrolled 29 Cha. II. 2p.— Vide Appendix, No. VIII. for a copy of the charter carefully collated with the original.

40 Corp. Book, B.

40a About this time the corporation became involved in a contest with Mathew Quinn, one of the old natives of the town, concerning a branch of their small duties and customs.—Andrew Lynch, Quin's uncle, previously to 1641, was seized in fee

of certain small duties, viz. four pence for every beef cow, bullock or ox, and one penny for every hog or sheep, slaughtered in the town or liberties; three pence for every cask of butter sold, twenty pence for every ton of beef, and twenty pence for every ton of butter exported (which were granted by the former corporation to one of said Lynch's ancestors, in consideration, of a sum of money, and an as-

rankling hatred and jealousy of the members of the corporation; and four months had scarcely elapsed when they assembled, and, in a body, represented to the mayor, "that several intruders and un-freemen and others, who kept servants not fitly qualified, do daily intrude on our privileges, by thrusting themselves and their servants into our said corporation, and keep open shop, to the great indignity of the laudable laws and customs of the same.." ¹ However inclined the mayor might be, he was unable to resist this intolerant body; and consequently, many of the persecuted people, who had been so recently admitted, were again obliged to quit the town. ²

For the five succeeding years very little worthy of observation occurred in the town, with the exception of a loyal congratulatory address presented, in 1683, by the corporation to Charles II. on the escape of his majesty, and the duke of York, from the Rye-house conspiracy; ³ and a memorial in the year, 1684, from the Catholic merchants and traders, (many of whom had, in the interim, been permitted to return,) to the lord lieutenant and council, for a reduction and settlement of the charter duties, whereupon a certain schedule was agreed to between them, and the corporation, under which these duties afterwards continued to be received. ⁴ On the accession of James II. to the throne, the hopes of the proscribed Catholic natives of

signment of his dwelling-house, which was converted into a tholsel.) These duties having become forfeited, and vested in the crown, were confirmed to Mathew Quin, "in consideration of his loyalty and sufferings," by patent dated 19th February, 1672, for 99 years; and although, as he stated, they were never granted to the corporation, yet they obstructed him in the receipt of them. He was therefore obliged to appeal to chancery, and accordingly obtained a decree on the first of June, 1675, to quit him in the possession. — Orig. Decree, Rolls Off. — In 1680, the corporation complained to the chancellor, that Quin, not content with his patent, had, by exacting beyond it, augmented to 300*l.* yearly, what, in 1641, was farmed for 18*l.* and prayed relief. — Corporation Book B. — The affair was afterwards compromised between them. In 1685, the duties of the markets and the ingate and outgate customs were set for one year for 210*l.* — Id. C.

1 Corporation Book, B.

2 The words of the Roman poet might justly be applied to the corporators on this occasion:

"Ne tecum possum vivere, nec sine te.
Martial.

3 Vide Com. Jour. Vol. 7, Appendix, for this schedule.

4 The following extract from this address will shew the loyalty and principles of the corporation at this period:

"We, your majesties dutiful and loyal subjects, have, in this remote angle of your dominions, heard of that most traitorous and bloody conspiracy of some ex-

ecrable men, actuated by fanatical and rebellious principles, to assassinate the person of your most sacred majesty, and of your royal brother, and who by that act designed the subversion of the best of governments, under the blessed influence whereof our ancestors flourished for so many ages, and became the envy of our neighbour nations. The true sense of which most horrid contrivance, as it fills our hearts with humble adoration of that Divine Providence, that hath, by a series of mercies, so signally appeared in the constant preservation of your most sacred person, so likewise, with just horror against all traitorous persons and principles; and this, dread sir, being the language of our souls, we presume to lay ourselves with it at your royal feet, declaring that we do, in heart and soul, abhor all fanatical and rebellious persons and positions, and ready to sacrifice all that is dear to us, in the defence of your most sacred person and government, and of your dear and royal brother, and your majesties lawful heirs and successors, in the immediate and legal course of descent, nor can we, in this juncture, end our presumption, without rendering grateful acknowledgments to your sacred majesty for the calmness we enjoy in this kingdom, under the sedulous administration of his grace the duke of Ormond, and his excellency the lord deputy; and that the Almighty may ever shield your majesty from violent and blood-thirsty men, and crown your royal head with all lasting honour and grandeur." — Corp. Book, C.

Galway once more revived, and they ventured more freely to approach the town. The king soon after having directed the earl of Clarendon, the lord lieutenant, to provide for the admission of Catholics to the freedom of corporations, colonel Russell, the mayor, on the 25th of June, 1686, received directions from his lordship to admit to their freedom such of the Roman Catholic merchants and dealers as should desire it, without tendering the oath of supremacy, or any other oaths except those of allegiance and of freemen, at the same time nominating nineteen of the principal persons to be immediately admitted free, and sworn of the common council. This communication was received with dismay. The council assembled; and, after some debate, the mayor was requested to communicate their readiness to admit these, and all other the natives and inhabitants of the town, to their freedom; but as, by the rules of the corporation, they were bound and sworn to maintain the ancient customs, one of which was, that the common council should be elected only on the Monday after Michaelmas day, they should be obliged to postpone that part of his directions until then; but that, on the 2nd of July following, those to be admitted free would be proposed in tholsel. In answer to this, the lord Lieutenant observed, *that in extraordinary cases they were not bound to any particular day* to admit members of the council, and peremptorily directed immediate obedience to his former orders.⁵ Accordingly, in the beginning of July, one hundred and sixty Catholics, of the ancient names and natives, were sworn, and before the end of the year several others were admitted, by which time they obtained a complete ascendancy in the corporation.⁶

After the severe treatment which Roman Catholic inhabitants of the town had, for many years before this period, experienced, it would be expecting more than the nature of man is capable of, (at least in an aggregate body actuated by the mingled feelings of passion, prejudice and revenge,) if they did not, on the present occasion, not only feel elated, but even proceed to lengths which, under other circumstances would be unjustifiable. In the scenes which follow, however, they exercised their newly-acquired power with moderation, compared with the former proceedings of their opponents. Soon after their admission, they informed the lord lieutenant that the revenues of the town were embezzled and misapplied, and offered to prove the fact, if an investigation were ordered. This was promised; and the mayor, who was principally concerned in the charge, was directed not to offer himself as a candidate for that office the ensuing year, and he was soon after ordered to march with his regiment to Athlone.⁷ On the 1st of August, 1686, John Kirwan Fitz-Stephen, (afterwards Sir John Kirwan, of Castlehacket,) a Catholic, was elected mayor for the ensuing year; and the earl of Clanricarde, another, was appointed governor of the town.

From the accession of James II. Galway and its ancient inhabitants were particularly marked out as objects of the royal favour and protection. The latter all professed the same religious principles as the king, (for adhering

to which, it was universally known, they had suffered every species of degradation and persecution during the last thirty years,) a circumstance which, in itself, was sufficient to recommend them to his attention. Independently of this, his ministers judged that, in case of any serious opposition and resistance to the arbitrary measures and religious projects of the monarch, it would be prudent to have a place, so considerable for strength and situation as Galway, (that so recently before had sustained so memorable a siege,) properly munitied, and entirely devoted to their interest; and, with this point in view, the strengthening of the town became an object of particular consideration. A draught of the fortification having, by his majesty's order, been laid before him, he caused several additional works to be planned out, which, if carried into effect, would have rendered the town impregnable; but matters of a more momentous nature prevented their being put into execution. Lord Clanricarde, having arrived to take possession of his government, was received with the most lively demonstration of joy: every old recollection, which endeared the memory of his great and distinguished predecessor, became revived in the minds of the people, and the days of their greatness though for ever past, seemed in fancy to be once more returned. Soon after his arrival, the mayor and corporation petitioned him to open an old passage through the upper citadel into the town, offering, for the accommodation, to raise the surrounding walls, make up the gates, and repair the draw-bridges, at their own expense. His lordship declined doing this on his own authority, but submitted the matter to the lord lieutenant, accompanied by his opinion, and that of several officers then in the town, that it would add considerably to the strength of the place. He further informed him, that the gate required to be opened was the ancient and usual way from the country, but that, after the town had been taken by Cromwell's forces, it was walled up, and a bye passage made outside the citadel, to render it more secure against the natives. The lord lieutenant, equally unwilling to give his sanction without having that of higher authority, accordingly transmitted the entire to England⁸ for directions, before he signified his assent. This extraordinary caution, in an affair of so trifling a nature, shews what importance was then attached to every circumstance connected with the security of the town.

During the year 1687, multitudes of the former natives and their families flocked to the town, and were restored to their properties and freedom. The Catholic clergy also returned, and reclaimed their respective places of worship, to the inexpressable mortification and grief of the Protestant inhabitants, who were quietly obliged to submit to this extraordinary change of affairs, without even daring to remonstrate against the encroachments which were daily making upon their rights. In the beginning of the year, Nagle, the king's attorney-general, issued a *Quo-warranto* against the corporation, upon which they entered into a resolution either to plead or surrender the charter, as the recorder, Sir Henry Lynch, should consider most

⁸ Letter to Lord Dartmouth, 4th Sept. 1686.

prudent; but judgment having afterwards passed against them, it was seized into the king's hands, with a promise, however, of an immediate renewal containing more ample privileges. To defray the expense of the new charter, one hundred and fifty pounds were levied on the town, and on the 12th March following it was obtained. As the nature of this short-lived though voluminous instrument is at present but little known, a translated abstract of its contents may, to many prove particularly interesting;⁹ though, like all the other acts of king James in Ireland, it was afterwards declared void.

9 Abstract of charter of James II. to Galway.

The king, after stating that the town was ancient and populous, ordained that it should forever be and remain a free borough and a separate county.—The corporation to consist of one mayor, one recorder, twenty-six aldermen, two sheriffs, sixty free burgesses and one chamberlain. —John Kirwan, esq. to be the modern mayor. — Garret Moore, esq. Sir Walter Blake, bart. Roebuck Lynch, Robert Blake, Dominick Brown; James D'Arcy, Oliver Martyn, Francis Blake, Nicholas French, senior, Henry Blake, Robert French, Andrew Blake, Martin Kirwan, Fitz-Patrick, Walter Blake esquires; Geo. Stanton, Ambrose Lynch, Stephen Dean, Thomas Deane, Robert Kirwan, Peter Kirwan Fitz-Francis, merchants; James Browne Fitz-Edward, William Hill Jonathan Perry, Thomas Rivette, Thomas Simcockes and John Gerry, to be the modern twenty-six aldermen during their respective lives. — James Browne and Marcus Kirwan, modern sheriffs.—Denis Daly, esq. one of the justices of the common pleas; Sir Henry Lynch, bart. one of the barons of the exchequer; Peter Martin, esq. one of the justices of the common pleas; Gerald Dillon, esq. prime serjeant. Francis Plowden, John Browne, Charles Daly, George French, George Browne, Anthony Bodkin, Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Marcus, Arthur French, Peter Blake Fitz-Richard, Nicholas French junior, Richard Blake, Oliver Browne, Francis Foster, Patrick Lynch Fitz-Robert, Jos. Lynch, Marcus Blake Fitz-Walter, Andrew French, Arthur Lynch Fitz-Roebuck, Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Roebuck, John Blake Fitz-Valentine, Roebuck French, Patrick French Fitz-Roebuck, esquires, James Ryan, M.D., Thomas Martin, M.D. Mark Browne Fitz-Walter, John Martin Fitz-Richard, Dominick Lynch, Fitz-John, Laurence Deane, Thomas Blake Fitz-John, Richard Lynch, senior, Dominick Ffrench Fitz-Patrick, Thomas Lynch Fitz-Peter, Gregory Nolan, Francis Blake Fitz-Andrew, Edmond Skerrett Fitz-Dominick, Patrick Blake Fitz-Andrew, Peter Blake Fitz-Nicholas, Stephen Lynch Fitz-Nicholas More, Richard Lynch, junior, Jasper French Fitz-Robert, Patrick D'Arcy, Oliver D'Arcy, Martin D'Arcy Fitz-

Richard, Martin D'Arcy Fitz-Peter, Patk. French Fitz-George, John Bodkin Fitz-Ambrose, Edmond Bodkin Fitz-Patrick, Samuel Cambie, Edmond Ffrench Fitz-Patrick, James Ffrench Fitz-Andrew, Thomas Staunton, Martin King, Marcus Lynch, Thomas Yeaden, William Cleer and Denis Kelly, to be the modern sixty burgesses during their respective lives.—Power was then given to elect a mayor and two shrieves yearly; also, from time to time, in case of death, removal or vacancy to elect aldermen, and to find officers elected who should refuse to serve, but the fines not to exceed one hundred marks. One chamberlain to be elected by the common council, and to be continued during its pleasure. William Hill appointed a modern chamberlain. The corporation to have one recorder, to be called "the recorder of the town of Galway," quam diu se bene gesserit: Thomas Lecch, esq. appointed a modern recorder, and power given to the mayor, shrieves, free burgesses and commonalty to elect successors. The alderman, chamberlain and recorder, and their successors, and James Foster, esq. Thomas Burke, esq. Francis Lynch Fitz-George, Francis Lynch Fitz-James, Patk. Nolan, Ignatius Browne, Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Dominick, Thomas Nolan, Nicholas Lynch Fitz-John, Peter Lynch Fitz-John, John Joyes, Ballantine Browne, John Lynch Fitz-Michael, Martin French Fitz-Robert, Bartholomew Lynch, Andrew Athy, Bartholomew Butler, Nicholas Lynch Fitz-William, Thomas Brown Fitz-Edward, merchants; John Vaughan, senior, Francis Knapp, Thos. Rutledge, Thomas Andrews, Richard Wall, Richard Browne, Thomas Wilson, Andrew Begg, Thomas English, Peter French Fitz-Edmond, Peter Browne Fitz-Chrisopher, Francis Browne Fitz-Chrisopher, and Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Ambrose, were constituted freemen.

The mayor was empowered to appoint a deputy in case of sickness or accident, and the recorder to appoint a deputy during pleasure. Deputies to take the usual oaths. Power given to the mayor and corporation to appoint superior officers during pleasure. A court of record to be held before the mayor and recorder, and every Tuesday and Friday forever, to hear and determine all accidents, as well real as personal, within the town, franchises and

The restored natives having now succeeded in every point, to the utmost extent of their wishes, were principally occupied, during the greater part of the ensuing year, in the regulation of the town, and the establishment of the clergy. Their affairs, for a short time, bore every appearance of lasting peace and security, but all these flattering prospects were destined soon to vanish. Rumours of resistance to the government, and of secret associations

liberties with power to have a gaol within the town. A yearly fair on St. Bartholomew's day and the three following days; a market within the town every Wednesday and Saturday, and a court of pye-powder, with all tolls incidents there-to granted. Power to the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty to appoint succeeding mayors, but they were not to exercise their office until approved of by the chief governor or governors. The mayor, for the time being, to be escheator and coroner of town and county of the town, also to be clerk of the market and master of the assaye for ever, and to have the assize of bread and beer, and weights and measures within the town and the franchises thereof. The sheriffs empowered to hold county courts within the town and county of the town. The mayor and recorder, for the time being, to be justices of the peace, as well within the town and county of the town, as for the county of Galway at large: and power to have four other justices of the peace, of the aldermen of the town, within the town and county of the town. (to be elected and appointed, from time to time, by the mayor and the rest of the common council,) to continue in office respectively during good behaviour. John Kirwan, the resent modern mayor, Sir Walter Blake, baronet, Robert Blake and Dominick Browne, appointed a modern justices of the peace in the town and county of the town, during good behaviour. The justices of the peace, or any three of them, of whom the mayor for the time being or his deputy to be one, should, forever, have power and authority to hear and determine all transgressions and matters whatsoever within the town and county of the town. Power granted to have for ever one guild of merchants of the staple, consisting of one mayor, two constables, and such number of the merchants of the town as to the said mayor and constables should seem expedient. The mayor of the town to be mayor of the staple, and the sheriffs to be constables of the staple, for the years preceding their offices. George Stanton appointed modern mayor of the staple, and Richard Lynch and Jonathan Perry constables, with all such privileges and powers as were enjoyed by any other mayor and constable of the staple in any other city or town in Ireland. Power given to the corporation to have a sword-bearer, and John Scott

was appointed to that office: also to have four sergeants at mace at the least. Power also given to have two burgesses in parliament, to be elected by the mayor and the rest of the common council of the town and county of the town. All goods and chattels and felons, felos-de-se, and fugitives and waifs and wrecks of the sea, arising within the town and county of the town, the franchises and liberties of the same, were granted to the mayor and corporation; also all such castles, messuages, burgages, lands, tenements, &c. and all goods and chattels, and material insignia, franchises and liberties, &c. as the mayor, bailliff, burgesses and commonalty of the town theretofore ever had used, or enjoyed under any charters, grants, or letters patent, or under any other legal right, custom, use, prescription or title whatsoever, to hold as a king, as of his castle of Dublin, for the rents and services thereout due and accustomed.

The several charters of Richard the II. Henry VIII. Queen Elizabeth, and James I. were inspected, and all and singular, the liberties, franchises, uses and customs, in every one of them specified and confirmed in all other letters patent of any other kings of England to them granted were fully confirmed to the Corporation. The port of Galway, and the bay or arm of the sea, which enters between the isles of Arran, and from thence close to the town, were granted, and also that all vessels and boats which should enter the port should be loaded and discharged at the town. Several tolls and duties were granted for the maintenance and support of the town and county of the town, and for the repair of the walls, gates and bridges, and for pavage and other public work, at the yearly rent of 3*l*. 19*s*. 3*d* to be paid to the king and his successors, saving all and every jurisdiction of privileges belonging to the high admiral of the king, his heirs and successors. Power granted to the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty, and their successors, or the greater part of them, to admit and make freemen of the town and county of the town taking the usual oaths of a freeman and allegiance before the mayor. Power also given to the chief governor of the king, his heirs and successors, at his pleasure, by order of the privy council, from time to time, to remove from the offices of mayor, recorder, aldermen, sheriffs, free burgesses, or

for the purpose of opposing its measures, now, for the first time, awakened the town to a sense of approaching troubles; and aware that, as Catholics, their fate depended on the continuance of the present order of affairs, they renewed their protestations of attachment to the state, and their determination to support it at the expense of their properties and their lives. The most unlimited confidence was placed in their fidelity. The troops stationed in the town having been ordered on to their duty, by lord Tyrconnell, he confided the care of the garrison to the townsmen, and on the 15th of October it was ordered, in common council, that "all the inhabitants, under a certain penalty, should watch, each in turn, during the absence of the standing army." In answer to a communication from Mr. justice Daly to the mayor, he was informed, on the 21st of November, that the town would be able to furnish three companies of foot, consisting of two hundred men, and a troop of horse; and, on the 6th December following, it was ordered, at a public assembly, that six companies should be raised. The walls were soon after cleared, the guns mounted, and the gates and fortifications thoroughly repaired, by the directions of the lord deputy, but at the expense of the town. The earl of Clynricarde was soon after empowered, by order of the common council, to prostrate all the cabins adjoining the walls, and to demolish the several forts in the east liberties. The ditches were scoured by the assistance of the soldiery; the pillars at the exchange on the quay, and the wall at the point of Rintinane, were pulled down, and the draw-bridge at the west was made up. The public markets were then ordered to be held in the high street before the mayor's house; the town's-people got public notice to be timely provided with all the necessary provisions, in case of a siege; and, before the end of the year, the town was put into a tolerable state of defence by the inhabitants, who were fully resolved to hold out against any attempt which might be made by the enemies of government.¹⁰

The king, as soon as he had heard of these spirited preparations of the town of Galway, expressed himself in the highest terms of satisfaction. In July, 1689, three additional companies were raised, and the officers chosen were presented to his majesty for approbation.¹¹ The Protestant inhabitants

other officers of the town and county of the town. Power granted that the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors, might have, hold, use and enjoy to their own use, without molestation, all liberties, franchises, jurisdiction, taxation, usages, customs, duties, immunities, lands, tenement, goods and chattels according to the tenor of the present letter patent; also granted that a daily commission of gaol delivery, within the county of the town, the mayor for the time being, should be the first named in every such commission. Twenty or more of the common council were to form a council, and that their acts to be valid. The charter of Edward VI. to the college recited. Power granted to the

mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, yearly, on the feast of St. Peter, to elect and remove the warden and vicars, with all such rights as were enjoyed relative to them on the 23rd October, 1641, and as were granted by Edward VI. And the charter concludes with a saving for John Kirwan, the mayor, of his right to the lands purchased from Mrs. Hamilton.—Rot. Pat. 4 Jac. II. 2 p.

10 Corp. Book, C.

11 The officers were, Stephen Lynch Fitz-Nicholas, captain of the great gate quarter, who nominated Christopher Lynch Fitz-Peter lieutenant, and William Vaughan ensign.—Martin French Fitz-Peter, captain of the little gate quarter,

were afterwards removed, by the governor, to the west suburbs, for the better security of the town.¹² In April following the mayor received directions, by order of the king in council, "to put out of the court of aldermen and common council, such Protestants and disaffected men as should appear to him to be such, and to send their names presently to Dublin." Commissioners soon after arrived to view the state of the town, who directed several repairs to be made on the walls, and a fortification to be built round Barachalla. For these works 800*l.* were, on the 3d and 11th of July, ordered to be levied on the inhabitants. The community of St. Francis supplied stone and other materials; and the remainder of that year and part of the next were consumed in their completion.

The eventful day that was to decide the fate of the town was now drawing nigh. On the 12th of July, 1691, the hostile armies of the two contending monarchs met on the memorable plains of Aughrim, whence the noise of their cannon might be easily heard at its gates. It is not our intention to enter into a description of the sanguinary and decisive engagement which here took place: the awful news of its result was known that night in the town, whither several of the fugitives fled for shelter. The alarm of the inhabitants may be easily conceived to have been extreme, and every preparation was made for defence. Many, however, were so panic-struck, that they would have compromised for their safety by immediately surrendering almost on any terms. Lord Dillon, the governor, the French lieutenant general D'Ussone, and the other officers of rank in the town, immediately held a council of war. It appeared that the town, though strong and well stored with provisions, was deficient in men and arms, which were drawn away by degrees to supply other exigencies. The garrison consisted but of seven regiments of foot with a few troops of horse, and these neither full nor well armed; but their great dependance was on the promises of Baldearg O'Donnell, whom they

who nominated James Lynch Fitz-Dominick lieutenant, and Francis Kirwan ensign.—Alexander Ffrench, captain of the new tower quarter, who nominated William Lynch Fitz-Andrew lieutenant, and Thomas Ryan ensign; and Dominick Kirwan captain of the quay quarter, who nominated Francis Lynch Fitz-William lieutenant, and Peter Heyne ensign, all of whom were approved of by the king.—Id.

¹² After the cessation of hostilities in Ireland, a narrative was published purporting to give a true account of many cruelties pretended to have been inflicted on a number of Protestant gentlemen and others, who, with the first lord (then Sir Thomas) Southwell, were taken prisoners in 1689, by James Power, high sheriff of the county of Galway, and conveyed to the town for security. This nar-

rative, Lodge, the author of the Peerage of Ireland, without sufficient investigation, introduced into his account of the Southwell peerage—Vol. VI. p. 20—though he might easily have perceived that it was a statement worked up merely to excite the attention of government towards some of those individuals, at a time when few would venture to contradict them. The truth however is, that this party was intercepted while passing through the country in a state of open hostility; and that while they remained prisoners in Galway they experienced the mildest treatment: they were all comfortably lodged and carefully provided for in the town, and many of them were even at large on their parole of honour, until they were exchanged after the battle of the Boyne.

hourly expected from Iar-Connaught with the troops under his command.¹³ Though thus circumstanced, it was unanimously resolved to defend the town. General Ginckle, the English commander, having judged it necessary to reduce Galway before he should proceed to Limerick, after a few days delay to refresh his troops, marched on the 17th July towards Athenry, and encamped on the surrounding plains. On the same day he advanced, with a party, three miles nearer Galway, to a rising ground, from whence he could see the shipping in the bay. On his return to the camp he found a Mr. Shaw, a merchant of the town, (who, with a few other Protestants, had that morning escaped,) from whom he received a full account how matters stood within. This information was the more satisfactory, as it differed entirely from what he had previously received from others, that the garrison consisted of five thousand men, and those well armed; that the stores were considerable, and the town almost impregnable; that Sarsfield, with the whole of the Irish horse, was upon his march with a resolution to raise the siege; and that Ballderg's party was above six thousand strong: all which led him to apprehend that he would have more trouble with Galway than he expected, and that the siege would be protracted to the ensuing winter; a circumstance which, above all others, he was most anxious to avoid.

At this juncture, Denis Daly, of Crraownekelly, in the county of Galway, esq. second justice of the court of common pleas, and one of the privy counsellors of James II.¹⁴ despatched a messenger to general Ginckle, de-

13 A persecuted people will grasp at every shadow in expectation of deliverance. Of this truth the career of this Irish adventurer is strongly illustrative. He was descended from one of the branches of the Tyrconnell family, and was born and educated in Spain. Whither his ancestors, fled from persecution in 1607. The Irish, who at all times were fond of listening and paying attention to old prophecies, (particularly such as predicted relief from the oppressions of England,) had an idle prediction for a long time current amongst them, that a descendant of that old family, who was to be distinguished by a red mark (Ir. Balldearg,) would restore their broken affairs, and, by his conduct and gallant actions, free his country from the yoke of the English. The coincidence of his name and family induced many to apply this prediction to Balldearg O'Donnell, and he was accordingly sent for to Spain. He arrived in Limerick in September, 1690, and several thousands flocked to his standard. Their expectations however failed; he achieved nothing worth noticing, nor does it appear that he was possessed of any one qualification for command. During the battle of Aughrim he remained inactive at the house of a Mr. Miller at Ballycushean, six miles from Tuam; having a party of about one thousand men at Headford, Ballinrobe, and other parts of the country, who, when they heard the result of

the battle, were for retreating to the mountains; but the English army not coming up as soon as they apprehended, Balldearg, at the instance of Dr. Lynch, titular dean of Tuam, (instead of marching to the relief of Galway, being the only point in which he could be then serviceable to his party,) sent a body of troops to Tuam, who, under pretence that the people were making preparations to receive the English army, pillaged and burned the town. He then marched to Cong in the county of Mayo; but by that time, if he had ever intended it, he was rendered unable to relieve Galway, for his followers dwindled away to about six hundred men. He remained among the mountains until after the surrender of the town, when he joined the English army, and, having had the meanness to accept of a commission from Ginckle, assisted at the taking of Sligo. Thus ended the career of this pretended deliverer; from which it may be concluded that the prophecy was either false or unsupplied in his person. What became of him afterwards has not been thought worth the trouble of inquiry.

14 This eminent individual, "whose impartiality and integrity (in those arduous times) added lustre to his judicial character," was grandfather of the late James Daly, of Dunsandle, in the county of Galway, esq. who, about the beginning of the present reign, acquired a preponderating influence in the corpora-

siring that a party might be sent for him, who should seemingly force him from his habitation; a circumstance which he conceived would lead to a more speedy surrender of the town. It seems that this gentleman, whose distinguished worth and integrity had gained him the confidence and esteem of all parties, had, with the other principal gentlemen of the county, for several months previous to the battle of Aughrim, held a correspondence with the English government, for the submission and general pacification of this part of the kingdom; to effect which, he proposed, amongst other things, the surrender of Galway. He had measures preconcerted with a few of the principal inhabitants of the town for the purpose, who, clearly foreseeing that resistance would be useless, had privately authorized the proposal, promising all their assistance to have the town delivered up, and that on stipulated terms, much more advantageous than those subsequently obtained by capitulation. Matters being so arranged, a party of the English army had, in the preceding winter, marched as far as the Shannon, on their way towards Galway; but the French party having, in the mean time, gained the entire ascendancy in the town, the project failed. On the present occasion, however, judge Daly conceived that the apparent forcible seizure of his person would induce those with whom he had formerly negotiated, (and by whose assent he had made the undertaking to government,) to excite a party in the town who would insist on a surrender, to prevent the useless effusion of human blood: but in this he was also disappointed, for the French faction still prevailed; and though some of the magistrates and many of the townsmen were for surrendering, several of them were imprisoned for declaring their intentions. The defence of the town was therefore, as already mentioned, determined upon; and Ginckle, encouraged by the information of Shaw, at length resolved to besiege it.

This resolution was, however, considered by some as too premature: the summer was now advanced, and Limerick, the principal strength and dependance of the nation, was yet to be reduced. The capture of Galway, it was considered, would immediately follow that of Limerick, or, should it even hold out, that it would be more easily taken by a winter siege than that important place, which, the year before, had defeated the English army, commanded by the king in person. It was therefore concluded, that it would be more advisable to station sufficient forces in Athenry, Loughrea, and the other neighbouring towns and positions, to keep the garrison of Galway in awe, and, with the main body of the army, while it was fresh and flushed with victory, immediately to lay siege to Limerick. The general, however, more prudently reflected on the danger of leaving so considerable a place as Galway behind him, which, although the garrison was then weak, might be reinforced by Baldearg O'Donnell, or by French troops which were daily expected in the bay, and thereby become too powerful

tion of Galway, which was preserved by his eldest son, James Daly, esq., now re- his son, the right honorable Denis Daly, representative for the county of Galway a distinguished senator in the Irish house in the imperial parliament.—Vide Lodge, of commons, and by him transmitted to Vol. III. p. 396.

for his army, which had already been considerably reduced. For these reasons, he resolved to lose no time in commencing the siege, and made every necessary preparation for the purpose. He immediately informed the lords justices of his determination; and they dispatched an express to captain Cole, commander of a squadron then cruising about the mouth of the Shannon, to sail with all expedition to Galway; and empowered him to offer conditions, in case the town should make proposals; but he did not arrive until after its surrender, and was then ordered to return to his former station.

While these preparations were making for the siege, the town was equally active in preparing for defence. The French began to repair the fortified works on the hill; the town's-people were employed on the fort, near the south-east corner of the wall; several strong works were thrown up to defend the east gate, and all the cabins and hedges round the suburbs were levelled. Within the walls eight guns were planted on the upper citadel; near it was a platform of six, and eight or ten more were raised at the south-east corner. Upon the turret, which stood towards the middle of the long curtain that extended next the bay, there were two, and on the side next the river five more, which, with those planted towards the west and north, made about fifty pieces of canon. Many of these, however, were old and ill-mounted; some of the best guns belonging to the town having been shortly before taken away for other urgent services, and several fine brass pieces lay dismounted and useless in the streets. Although there was a considerable store of provisions, a great quantity of meal, salt, and other additional supplies, was brought from the shipping in the bay. Before the movement of the army towards the town commenced, a party of horse, commanded by the famous colonel Luttrell, attempting to approach and assist the town, was met by a body of cavalry posted at Kilcolgan, and forced to retire. The Irish commanders also attempted to throw in reinforcements across the bay from the county of Clare; but upon the appearance of captain Morgan, with a party under his command, they were prevented, after a skirmish in which three or four of their men were killed and eight taken prisoners. These disappointments, however, did not dishearten the town but rather stimulated all its exertions, and every preparation was made to defend it to the last extremity.¹⁵

15 The following description of the town at this period was given by Story author of the "Wars of Ireland" who was himself attached to the English army at the time and present at the siege:—"The town of Galway is, no doubt, one of the most ancient in Ireland; and yet I do not find many remarkable things of it formerly, it being always rather a place of trade than action of another nature. It was first governed by a provost, then sovereign and bayliffs, then a mayor and bayliffs, now by a mayor and sheriffs. It was most of it burnt in the year 1500, but soon re-

built by reason of the richness of the inhabitants: the houses within the walls are generally very strong, and streets narrow. There lived a great many rich merchants in it of late, by reason of the conveniency of its situation for trade with Spain or France, but most of them are Irish. The town is seated at the foot of a narrow ridge of land, having Galway bay on the south and south-east, a large river coming from lough-Corbe on the west, and towards the north there lies a low bog, through the midst of which runs a narrow but deep river, proceeding from the great one that slides

On the morning of the 19th July, the English forces, consisting of upwards of fourteen thousand men, chiefly infantry, marched from Athenry for Galway. The remainder of the army, consisting of three thousand horse and dragoons, was left there under the command of lieutenant-general Scravenmore and major-general Ruvigny, as well for the convenience of forage, and securing the passes for the cannon intended to be sent for to Athlone, (should the siege prove tedious,) as for observing the motion of the Irish forces. The troops advanced in two columns, with a rear-guard of one hundred men to each wing, commanded by a lieutenant-colonel, and each regiment preceded by a captain, ensign, and fifty firelocks. They met with no opposition in their approach, until they arrived within view of the town, when some skirmishes took place between the advanced posts and parties of the French and Irish forces. The latter set fire to the castle of Tirellan, to prevent the enemy making any use of it against the town, and retained the possession of the outworks of the castle, until they were driven from them by the repeated attacks of a superior force; after which they approached the town by the river, and burned all the suburbs beyond the north-west gate. In these rencontres several of the English were killed. The Irish troops then entered the town amid loud acclamations, and the besieged manifested every intention of making the most vigorous resistance. Ginckle not expecting such immediate and determined opposition, as soon as a part of the army was drawn up as near the town as he could approach with safety, judged it prudent to summon the garrison to surrender. He offered them the benefit of the lords justices' late declaration, if they yielded without giving him any further trouble or delay; but the governor made answer, "that Monsieur D'Ussone, as well as himself, and the rest of the officers, were resolved to defend the place to the last." While the messenger remained in town, the soldiery, impatient for action, discharged several shots from the cannon on the walls, which was afterwards complained of as unusual, and contrary to the rules of war, but it appeared the men were not aware of the communication. The remainder of the day was occupied in fixing the positions of the army round the town, during which the cannonading continued from the walls, though it was attended with but very little effect, in consequence of the favourable situation of the ground chosen by the besiegers. As soon as it was dark, the four regiments of colonel Tiffins, St. John, Monsieur Cambons and lord George Hamilton, with one Dutch and another Danish regiment of foot, and four squadrons of horse and dra-

by the town: this river and bog extend about a mile and a half towards the north-east, and then end together, the river sinking under ground at the foot of a large hill, but appears again at an old castle nigh Oranmore, where it runs into the utmost creek of the bay. The ridge of land between the bog and the bay towards the east is but very narrow,

and may with no great difficulty be fortified, without which the town is not to be defended, since an army may approach, under covert of the ridge, within less than a hundred yards of the wall, where there is a raising ground that overlooks a great part of the town."—London, 1691-3.

goons, all commanded by lieutenant-general Mackay, crossed the river nearly opposite the castle of Menlo, about two miles north of the town. They were all safely over by break of day, and met with no opposition except from a party of dragoons sent to oppose their landing, which, being overpowered by superior numbers, was obliged, after a severe skirmish, to retreat. This formidable detachment (which was wafted over on floats previously constructed, but without success, to seize the only three ships that remained in the bay, and which sailed that night) occupied all the passes from Iar-Connaught, and put an end to any further hopes of succour from Baldearg O'Donnell. This disappointment was followed by another, resulting from the treachery of one Bourke, a captain in the Irish army, who deserted, before the English were many hours before the town, and informed general Ginckle that the fort towards the south-east was nearly finished; and, therefore, the sooner it was attacked, the easier it would be gained: he also added, that from its importance, as it commanded a great part of the wall on that side of the town, its loss would considerably dispirit the besieged.

The next morning, July 20th, count Nassau and general Talmash, with a party of grenadiers and two regiments of foot, were conducted, by Bourke, the safest and nearest direction to attack the fort, and the troops arrived almost at the foot of the works before they were discovered. This unexpected attack having caused considerable confusion within, the English pushed forward through some faint firings, and threw in their grenades, which obliged the soldiers to abandon the fort, and retire by a line of communication drawn between it and the town. In this action the English had only a lieutenant and five men killed, and but two lieutenants and eight men wounded. As soon as they entered the fort, a tremendous fire was opened on them from the walls, by which several were killed and wounded, particularly their principal engineer, who fell as he was giving orders to his men. In the meantime the west suburbs were set on fire, to prevent their being possessed by the troops that crossed the river, and the besieged still shewed in every quarter the most determined resolution of resistance. But at that moment the principal inhabitants, who before were inclined to surrender, waited on the governor, and, representing the impossibility of maintaining the town against such an army, made use of every argument to persuade him to enter into a treaty. Their councils at length prevailed, and at the hour of ten o'clock he ordered a parley to be beat, and despatched a letter to the English commander, requiring safe conduct for some persons to manage a capitulation. This welcome message was gladly received by the general; a satisfactory answer was immediately returned, and a cessation accordingly proclaimed on both sides. The town's-people and soldiers crowded in great numbers to the walls, and the English troops having approached near enough to hold conversation, several inquiries passed for their friends and acquaintance in each other's army. In the afternoon hostages were exchanged: those on the side of the English were lieutenant-colonel Purcell Coote and the marquis de Rheda and those of the town lieutenant-colonels Lynch, Burke and Reilly. The articles not being agreed

to on that day, the cessation was continued until ten o'clock the following morning. In the mean time, several debates took place in the town on the terms to be obtained and given; but the hour limited having arrived before they were able to agree, Ginckle became impatient, and having ordered eight guns and four mortars to be drawn to the fort, which was taken the day before, he sent a drummer to the town to order away his hostages; and, although the besieged demanded and obtained more time to agree among themselves, his impatience was so great, that he sent once or twice to press them to a speedy conclusion. At length lieutenant-colonel Burke, one of the hostages, was permitted to go into town; and Talmash, who evinced every inclination to lay the treaty aside, and even made some cold-blooded declarations that it would be preferable to attempt the town by storm, desired that, "when they were ready to begin again, they would give a signal by firing a gun in the air;" but the other replied, "they would not fire a gun from within, until they were provoked from without." In a short time after, on the 21st July, the articles were agreed to, signed and exchanged by general Ginckle, on the part of the English, and by the lords Clanricarde, Dillon and Enniskillen, on the part of the besieged. Of these articles, being sixteen in number, the principal were, that the town was to be surrendered on the following Sunday, the 26th of July. The French officers and soldiers, and such of the garrison as wished it, to be conducted to Limerick. A free pardon to be granted to all within the town, with liberty to possess their estates, real and personal, and all other liberties and immunities which they held, or ought to have held, under the acts of settlement and explanation. The clergy and laity were to be unmolested in the private exercise of their religion, and the clergy protected in their persons and goods. The gentlemen of estates belonging to the town and garrisons to carry certain arms, and the Roman Catholic lawyers of the town were to have free liberty of practice, as in the reign of Charles II.¹⁶

Immediately after the articles were signed, the governor gave the earl of Clanricarde, lord Enniskillen, Colonel Dominick Browne, lieutenant-colonel Bodkin and major Dillon, as hostages for the due performance of the terms to be observed, until the town should be delivered up. William Robinson, deputy paymaster of the army, was thereupon sent in to take an account of the stores, which were found to consist of eight hundred and fifty hogsheads of French meal, sixty barrels of salt, a considerable quantity of ammunition, and other articles of value. In the afternoon of the same day the English troops took possession of the outworks, and the governor dismounted the cannon on the walls. A friendly intercourse subsisted between both armies and their commanders until the time for surrendering arrived; and about seven o'clock on the morning of the 26th, general D'Ussone went out to the English camp, where he stayed about half an hour, and then proceeded with a guard to Limerick. Sir Henry Bellasyse being appointed governor of the town, marched in with his own, colonel Brewer's and

colonel Herbert's regiments, and about nine o'clock took possession of the guards, and planted his sentinels on all the posts in and about the town. While the town forces were preparing to march out, a quantity of gunpowder, which a party of them was dividing in the street, suddenly exploded, by which several of the men had their eyes blown out, and upwards of twenty were dreadfully wounded and disfigured. This accident at first caused some confusion, the soldiers on each side immediately suspecting that they mutually intended to fall on one another; but, as soon as the cause was ascertained, these apprehensions ceased. About ten o'clock lord Dillon marched out with the garrison, not being above two thousand five hundred men, (who are described as indifferently armed, and worse clothed,) having, according to the articles, six pieces of cannon, (four of which were of iron,) drawn by English horses. They were also conducted to Limerick by a guard of horse and dragoons, and the same day, at noon, general Ginckle entered the town, and was received by the mayor, aldermen and recorder; the latter having delivered a congratulatory speech on the occasion.¹⁷

When the news of the capitulation of Galway arrived in England, it gave infinite satisfaction to the queen and ministry, and the articles were soon after ratified by their majesties. The event was perpetuated by a medal, on which is represented a bust of the king crowned with laurel, and inscribed with his usual titles. On the top of the reverse are the arms of Galway fixed against two palm branches, placed on saltire between a cap and a bible, the emblem of liberty and religion. The bottom is ornamented with two laurel branches twined together, and the area of the field filled with the following inscription:—"*Galloway rebellium et Gal-lorum penultimum refugium, post plurimas strages Gulielmo III. magno restitutori religionis et libertatis, cum armamentariis simul ac navibus red-ditur.*"—"Galway, the last refuge but one of the rebels and the French, is, after much slaughter, surrendered, with all its magazines and ships, to the great William III. the restorer of religion and liberty."

¹⁷ Some time after the restoration of peace in the kingdom, Sir Walter Blake, of Menlo, bart. petitioned king William, stating, that during the siege of Galway, he was second colonel in the earl of Clanricarde's regiment, then garrisoned in the town; that on the surrender he submitted himself to his majesty's government, and received a commission for raising a regiment of foot in his service; that he was the first Roman Catholic in Ireland that received his majesty's commission, for Limerick was not at the time reduced, and most of the garrison of Galway (according to the provision in the articles of capitulation) went thither, except himself and some others, who were afterwards officers in his regiment; that until the surrender of Limerick he was stationed on the frontiers, between his majesty's

quarters and the Irish, where he and his men behaved themselves with great care and fidelity; that he continued in his majesty's service until disbanded; and that he had been at great expense and trouble in raising the regiment, but never received or sought for any recompense, although it was the expectation of his majesty's favour that induced him to quit the service he was engaged in, his fortune in Ireland being but small. The object of his petition was, that the king would be pleased to direct the lord justices to consider petitioner's services in favour of his father-in-law, Mr. John Kirwan, concerning some forfeited wool-bonds; Mr. Kirwan "being a man who deserved well, and performed many services to his majesty's subjects in their calamities."—Orig. MS.

Henceforth the affairs of the town will be found to present a very different appearance from that which they held for many years before. For some time before and during the siege, it was agitated by three distinct parties; first, those who were inclined for moderate proceedings; next, the more violent, who adopted the measures of Sarsfield and Tyrconnell; and lastly, the French, who generally favoured the latter. These were succeeded after the surrender by two parties, the Protestants and Catholics, whose opposition to each other became so violent, that the governor, at first, found it extremely difficult to regulate matters between them. The Catholics, by the articles of capitulation, were entitled to carry arms, and their number, which was considerable, exciting the suspicion of the governor and the fears of the Protestants, he was persuaded to apply for an order to hold court-martial for inflicting summary punishment on such as should disturb the peace of the town. The inclinations and disposition of the governor soon became manifest. On the 1st August, he informed general Ginckle, by letter, that he kept "a watchful eye on the Papists."¹⁸ On that day a new mayor was to be elected: the Catholics, under the articles, insisted on the right, and the Protestants resolved to oppose them: each party separately proceeded to election, and both, after much tumult and confusion, made choice of the governor, who immediately appointed alderman Revett (the last acting Protestant mayor in 1685,) his deputy; and then described "the Papists in these parts" as "the most dangerous fellows in the world."¹⁹ They were soon after deprived of all influence in the corporation; and the mayor, availing himself of a pretext for the purpose, disarmed every individual of the persuasion within the town.²⁰ As an instance of his intentions towards these people, he recommended an order to issue, that some merchants, who were robbed near Athenry, should be remunerated

18. Clarke's Correspondence, MS. Trin. Col. Dub.

19. Clarke's Correspondence.—Colonel Toby Purcell, who was all this time in the town, openly arraigned the conduct of the governor, and, on the 2nd of August, informed the lords justices, "that as long as Sir Henry Bellasyse remains in Galway, his unpopularity and covetousness will produce mischief." He then recommended a proclamation of security to be issued, to encourage the people to bring in provisions, which they were then deterred through fear from doing.—Id.—Col. Purcell, who, on all occasions, appears to have stood forth an advocate for moderate measures, by letter of the 6th of September following, complained to general Ginckle of the conduct of Edward Eyre, one of the governors of the county of Galway, describing him as "the unfittest man in the country to be in that station, and am much afraid his violent proceedings will ruin that side of the country. He violated protections, and asserted that the articles of Galway signi-

fied but little, being against an act of parliament, and that their excellencies did not understand the law." Same collection. — These remonstrances, however, were unavailable, and the outrages complained of were suffered to go on with impunity.

20. He charged them with "growing insolent, expecting Sarsfield and O'Donnell's men to join."—Id.—About the 25th of August, some countrymen were tried in the town, by court martial, for stealing dragoon horses, for which three were found guilty, and accordingly executed. On this occasion the governor informed general Ginckle, that "there was a priest at their meeting, but they did not condemn him, because the executing a priest would have made a mighty noise at the time. I took this occasion to disarm the Papists of the town, and shall do the same to the country as soon as the commission of array arrives, and that the justices of the peace come into the country."—Same collection.

by the Catholic inhabitants, and quoted the good effects of a similar measure in the town the preceding winter. They, however, relying upon their articles, appealed from his proceedings, and he was himself obliged, as governor to transmit their petition for redress to the general. This had the desired effect, and obtained for them a temporary respite from the persecutions which they were afterwards doomed to experience.

To secure the conquest of Galway after the departure of the army for Limerick, all the batteries and other works about the town, raised both by the English and Irish forces, were levelled; but the fort formerly commenced on the hill beyond the south-east corner of the wall was repaired, and some fortified works were thrown up at the east gate, (thenceforth, in honour of his majesty, called *William's gate*,¹ and at the west end of the bridge. The governor also recommended that a fort should be built, and the castle repaired on Mutton-island, without which, he stated, that the shipping could not be secure in the bay. This was accordingly ordered, and one thousand pounds were granted for the purpose. The castle was fortified, and the fort provided with ten pieces of cannon: a company of soldiers was then stationed on the island, another was sent to Arran, and the fort there was likewise repaired. The island and castle of Bophin (the latter built by Oliver Cromwell, and then commanded by colonel Timothy O'Riordan,) having surrendered by capitulation, were also preserved in a state of defence, this island being considered a place of great importance, and particularly so during a war with France, whose privateers could easily shelter in the harbour had the fort been demolished.—Thus, in the district of Galway, as in all other parts of the kingdom, every necessary precaution was taken to secure the fruits of the sanguinary and disastrous war which had just terminated, and which established a free constitution and a system of laws calculated to secure the peace and advance the prosperity of the country, if their beneficial effects had not been destroyed by the bigoted persecutions which afterwards took place, and which will for ever remain an indelible disgrace to the times immediately succeeding this period.

CHAPTER VII.

FROM THE YEAR 1691 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

After the surrender, the greater part of the old natives and Catholic inhabitants are obliged to quit the town—Measures are taken to prevent their departure—Articles of Galway respected during the reign of William III.—Accession of Queen Anne—Commission of array issues—Town militia raised, and the fortifications repaired—Act to prevent the further growth of Popery—Roman Catholics prevented from purchasing houses or tenements in the town or suburbs—Those already residing give security pursuant to the act—On the rumour of an invasion by the Pretender, they are turned out of the town—Afterwards admitted—Again turned out during the rebellion in Scotland—Disputes between the members of the corporation—Galway act passes—Commerce of the town—Clandestine trade—Penal visitation in 1731—Town militia newly arrayed, and officers appointed—Arms delivered out, and state of the ordnance returned to government—Strict discipline observed in the town during the Scottish rebellion of 1745—Particular account of the fortifications, and their decayed state reported to government—They are suffered gradually to decay—Disputes between the governor, the corporation and the merchants, about shutting the gates—Description of the town at the time—Trade declines—The merchants petition parliament against the corporation—Resolutions of the house—New schedule of duties and customs agreed upon—Corporation disputes—Volunteers—Non-importation resolutions—East India fleet arrives in the bay—Town yeomanry—Union—Population of the town and liberties—Disputes and proceedings concerning non-resident freemen, the independence and parliamentary representation of the town.

HAVING now passed over the turbulent transactions which distinguish the seventeenth century above all others in our national history, the tumults of war henceforth entirely cease; but the reader, though no longer doomed to dwell on a continued narrative of sieges and battles, or to hear of the constant streaming of human blood in the field, is destined to encounter the no less destructive evils of civil bigotry and persecution, which, for more than half a century after this period, waged legislative war against the population of Ireland, and particularly against that part of it whose actions are detailed in the following pages. Those impolitic laws, however, which exiled so many thousand of Ireland's bravest sons to fight in every clime, and to conquer for every king except their own; which compelled its clergy to seek foreign education, and, consequently, to return with foreign prejudices; and which left uncultivated the fields, and uneducated the children, of one of the finest countries on earth, are now no more; the wiser councils of our present venerable sovereign at length prevailed, and

those dismal times have long since passed by, never again to return. However desirable, therefore, it might be that the veil of oblivion were for ever drawn over these melancholy scenes, a faithful narrative of local transactions, free from any feelings of political or religious prejudice, (which are here totally disclaimed,) can have no other effect at the present day, than that of exciting the surprise and commiseration of every liberal and enlightened mind, at the excesses committed by one party, and the miseries endured by another, in those distressing times.

The treatment which the old natives and Catholic inhabitants of Galway experienced after the surrender, caused so many families to depart the town, that a general assembly of the corporation was convened on the third of April, 1693, for the purpose of devising means to prevent an evil of so serious a tendency, and particularly one which, if preserved in, would nearly depopulate the town. They accordingly resolved that the mayor and recorder should take the subject into their immediate consideration, and ordered that no passes should thenceforth be granted to any of the inhabitants; and, particularly, that coercive measures should be taken to repress the licentiousness of the soldiery, and prevent their outrageous conduct towards the town's-people. Whatever local injuries and inconveniences they might thus endure, their rights, however, under the articles of capitulation, were publicly allowed during the reign of William III. and in some instances acknowledged even by parliament. In the act, passed in the 7th year of that reign, for the better securing the government, by disarming Papists, it was provided, that any gentlemen of estate, belonging to the town and garrison on the day of their surrender, might carry the arms therein specified; and in a subsequent act, to hinder the reversal of attenders, all persons comprised in the articles were particularly excepted. In a little time, however, all restraint was laid aside; in the succeeding reign they were entirely infringed, and the rights of the inhabitants became totally disregarded.

The accession of Queen Anne to the throne was proclaimed in Galway, on the 24th of March, 1701. Her majesty's commission of array soon after issued, under which 3 companies of foot, consisting of 250 men, were raised in the town and liberties.²¹ Mutton-island was again fortified; the town gates were repaired, and the building of a new exchange was proceeded on.

While these and other improvements were going forward in the town, the state of the inhabitants was determined upon in parliament. In the famous

21. The following individuals were returned as officers on this occasion by the commissioners of array, for the approbation of government, and were accordingly appointed.—Orig. MS.

First company:

Alderman Thomas Staunton, captain.
Robert Blakeney, lieutenant.
Hugh Turner, lieutenant.
James Widrington, ensign.

Second company:

Alderman Thomas Simcockes, captain.
Robert Shaw, lieutenant.
James Ribett Vigie, lieutenant.
Jarvis Hinde, ensign.

Third Company:

Alderman John Gerry, captain.
Samuel Cambie, lieutenant.
Thomas Poole, lieutenant.
John Lewis, ensign.

act to prevent the further growth of popery, after reciting that the peace and safety of the kingdom and the welfare of her majesty's Protestant subjects would much depend on the security of Limerick and Galway, and on their being in possession of Protestants, being considerable garrisons, it was enacted, that no person or persons that then were or should be Papists, or profess the popish religion, should or might, after the 24th day of March, 1703, take or purchase any house or tenement, or come to dwell or inhabit within the city of Limerick or the suburbs thereof, or within the town of Galway or the suburbs thereof; and that every person of the popish religion, then inhabiting within the said city and town and suburbs of the same, should by that day, before the chief magistrate of the said respective city and town, become bound to her majesty, her heirs and successors, with two sufficient sureties, in a reasonable penal sum, to be ascertained by the chief magistrate, recorder and sheriffs of the said city and town respectively, or any two of them, with condition for his or her faithfully bearing themselves towards her majesty, her heirs or successors, or, in default of giving such security, that such persons should depart out of the said city, and town and suburbs aforesaid, on or before the 25th day of March, 1705.²² The Catholic inhabitants of the town accordingly entered into security pursuant to this act of parliament; but even this had little effect towards preserving them from future trouble and persecution. In the year 1708, on the rumour of an intended invasion of Scotland by the Pretender, several gentlemen and merchants of the town were imprisoned by order of government, and the remainder of the Catholics turned out of the town. Richard Wall, the mayor, in his despatch to the privy council, described his proceedings under this order as follows:—"I have, pursuant to order of last night's post, turned all the popish inhabitants out of the town and garrison, and have also committed several popish priests to the goal. I have also taken care to remove the market outside the walls, and have given orders to prevent mass being said in town."²³ He also informed them, that the town militia consisted of about two hundred and fifty men fit for service, whom he represented as very inconsiderable, compared to the great number of popish inhabitants; and entirely unprovided with arms, which he requested would be furnished as soon as possible. The town was then put into a state of defence, and a

22. Stat. 2 Anne, 1703, chap. VI. sec. 23.—It was however provided that nothing in the act contained should be construed to hinder seamen or day-labourers from holding or dwelling in houses worth 40s. a year, or under, within the suburbs of Limerick or Galway—Sect. 28.—The bill set forth, "that if any person or persons of the popish religion, other than such trading merchants, (viz. seamen, fishermen, and day-labourers who did not pay upwards of 40s. a year rent,) not exceeding twenty in each of the towns of Limerick and Galway, as shall be licensed by the chief governor and governors of this kingdom for the time being, shall presume to live, dwell or inhabit, or take any house or tenement in either of the said towns or suburbs, he or they shall forfeit all his or their goods and chattels and suffer imprisonment for one whole year.—Com. Jour. Vol. III. f. 133.

23 Org. MS. dated 19th March, 1708.—In April, 1708, an East Indian fleet, consisting of six ships, arrived in the bay. The governor immediately informed the lords justices, that "a popish bishop and other Roman clergy, were on board of one of the vessels; upon which he was directed, "not by any means to suffer them to come on shore, but that they be carried to Great Britain, to be disposed of there as her majesty shall think fit.—Id.

strong detachment was also sent to the islands of Arran; but on the 15th of April following, colonel John Eyre, the Governor, received directions from government "to admit the popish inhabitants of Galway to return to their dwellings, and to continue in the town, as formerly, and to suffer the markets to be kept and held there, as before tthe late directions were given to the contrary, all apprehensions of any invasion from the Pretender being quite over."²⁴ From thence they remained undisturbed until the 22nd of March, 1711, when the mayor, in a despatch from the secretary of state, concerning some French prisoners then in his custody, was ordered "to cause the popish priests in Galway to be secured;" and in a subsequent despatch to set those prisoners at liberty, he received their excellencies thanks for his good services in respect of the popish clergy, accompanied by an assurance that they were extremely well pleased with his zeal and management therein, and expressing their hopes that he would continue his "endeavours to banish the priests, those enemies to our constitution, out of that town, and cause those you have apprehended to be prosecuted at law with the utmost rigor." That these denunciations were not unattendd to, may be safely concluded: each succeeding mayor, as his best recommendation to the notice of government, exerted himself to surpass his predecessors in persecuting these defenceless objects of political wrath. Obstacles, however, sometimes occurred to defeat or delay those relentless proceedings. An instance of this nature took place in the year 1714, when Robert Blakeney, who was thn mayor, informed the secretary of state, "that one James French, a regular popish clergyman, had lain in gaol a long time, committed for high treason for returning from beyond seas after being transported, but that he could not be tried for want of a Protestant jury of freeholders." Obstructions of this nature, however, were soon after removed by the interference of the legislature,, which appears to have constantly kept a vigilant eye upon this town, as containing the most considerable and respectable Catholic community of any other then in the kingdom.

Although the establishment of the illustrious house of Hanover on the throne of these realms, by the accession of King George I. may be considered as the dawn of toleration, after the dark and tedious night of religious persecution, which, until then, overspread this unhappy land, yet that event at first caused but little mitigation in the severity of the penal laws which afflicted the Catholics of Ireland. Their operation was for some time afterwards even more severe, in consequence of the Scottish rebellion of 1715, which was raised and carried on in favor of the Pretender. On this occasion, a new commission of array for Galway was directed to lord St. George, governor of the town,²⁵ and others. A muster of all the Protestants in the town and liberties, able to bear arms, was accordingly

24. Orig. MS.—13th April, 1708.

25. Lord St. George, baron of Hartley, during the reign of King William and Queen Anne.—Peerage.

the town of Galway and vice-admiral of

Connaught for his services in Flanders

taken; and it appeared that they could furnish three hundred and seventeen effective men, divided into five companies, for which the undernamed²⁶ persons were recommended, and consequently appointed as officers. This affair took place in October, 1715; and in January following, Robert Blakey, the mayor, turned all the Papists out of the town, except about twenty merchants, from whom I took security, and quartered the two companies of brigadier Harrison's regiment (which were stationed in the east and west suburbs,) in the two waste houses where the nuns formerly resided, belonging to Mr. Foster and Mr. Martin."²⁷ The most particular attention was, at the same time, paid to the care of the walls, gates, and fortifications; and the vigilance and coercive measures of the military were so strictly exerted that the town presented the appearance of an extensive prison in which the confined were permitted to walk during the day, but were closely locked up at the approach of night.²⁸ Even these extraordinary precautions were deemed insufficient, without further penal enactments and regulations, to ensure the safety of the town.

About this period violent contentions arose between the principal members of the corporation, many of whom, commiserating the distressed condition of the Catholic inhabitants, became advocates for milder measures, and, for the purpose of counteracting the extreme severities of the existing laws, admitted several persons not residing in the town, to the freedom and privileges of the corporation. These proceedings of the moderate party occasioned several disputes between them and those of the opposite feeling, which at length proceeded so far, that alderman Thomas Simcocks and Edward Barrett, "on behalf of themselves and divers of the Protestant

26. First company:

Alderman Thomas Simcocks, captain.
 ——— S. Simcocks, first lieutenant.
 Robt. Andrews, gent. second lieutenant.
 Maurice Hughes, ensign.

Second company:

Alderman James Ribett Vigie, captain.
 ——— Mark Lynch, first lieutenant.
 Edward Rhodes, gent. second lieutenant.
 John Manion, do. second lieutenant.

Third company:

Alderman Jarvis Hinde, captain.
 ——— Edward Barrett, first lieutenant.
 Thomas Hudson, gent. second lieutenant.
 Michael Harris, do. ensign.

Fourth company:

Edward Eyre, esq. captain.
 Alderman John Feuquiere, first lieutenant.
 Geoffry Cook, gent. second lieutenant.
 Thomas Holland, do. ensign.

Fifth company:

Robert Shaw, jun., esq., captain.
 ——— William Hinde, second lieutenant.
 Henry Perry, ensign.

In 1725, new officers were appointed in place of some of the foregoing, who died, and the militia was then reduced to two hundred and thirty men who had amongst

them only one hundred and twenty firelocks.—Original returns.

27. Original letter from the mayor.

28. A circumstance which occurred about this period, shews the extreme and jealous caution with which the town was guarded against any attempt, foreign or domestic, by which its safety could be endangered.—In August, 1713, Mr. Arkwright, then collector of the town informed the commissioners of the revenue, that neither he nor any officer belonging to the custom-house would be permitted to go upon the town walls to look into the road and bay, and that none of the town gates would be opened for him which proved highly prejudicial to the revenue though that liberty had been formerly allowed. This representation being laid before the lords justices, they immediately directed the commanding officer of the town to permit the officers of the revenue to go upon the walls whenever there should be occasion for it, and allow the surveyor to pass through the quay gate in the night time, when his majesty's service should require it.—Orig. MS.—When such precautions as those were taken against the civil officer of the crown, the restrictions imposed upon the Catholic inhabitants may be easily conjectured.

aldermen, common council men, freemen, commonalty and Protestant inhabitants," on the 13th September, 1717, petitioned parliament, complaining of the illegal and oppressive practices and arbitrary proceedings of John Staunton, esq. one of the representatives of the town, and of Robert Coates, the then mayor, stating that, for several years past, a design had been formed and carried on by the magistrates and governing part of the corporation, to support a popish and discourage the Protestant interest within the town; in pursuance of which design, nunneries and other places of refuge and shelter for regular and secular priests, friars, and other offenders against the several laws in force in the kingdom, had been suffered, connived at, and encouraged within the town and county of the town of Galway, contrary to law: that, in further pursuance of the said evil design great numbers of Papists, by the notorious neglect of the magistrates,, had been and were then permitted to inhabit in the town, contrary to law; whereby, and by reason of several other discouragements to the Protestant interest there, and of such Protestants as then did or would reside therein, a sufficient number of Protestant freeholders could not be found in the county of the town of Galway, to try offenders against the several acts then in force against Papists, whereby great numbers of popish priests, friars, and dignitaries of the church of Rome, frequently landed from foreign part, contrary to law, within the town and liberties, and, through the connivance of the justices of the peace, were sheltered from justice, and found protection therein, and from thence found opportunities to disperse themselves into all other parts of the kingdom: that, by the charters of Galway, the mayor and recorder for the time being, and, in their absence, their respective deputies, were the only justices of the peace within the county of the town, who had ben principal instruments in obstructing the execution of the laws against popery, and had confederated with many persons popishly affected within the town, and with divers others enemies to the Protestant interest who were foreigners to the town rendered, to form a common council to carry on their evil designs, by illegally excluding certain common council men (who had been duly elected, admitted and sworn) from acting or voting therein; and, having thereby procured to themselves a majority, had, for several years past, arbitrarily and illegally admitted into the same divers persons disaffected to his majesty and the Protestant interest; by means whereof, and other evil practices, the security of the town and garrison was greatly endangered, the residence of Protestants therein discouraged, prevented, and rendered unsafe, justice obstructed, many criminals protected contrary to law, and great grievances and mischiefs occasioned to the Protestant interest thereof; for all which they prayed relief. The house having ordered that the matter of this petition should be heard at their bar, council accordingly appeared, and witnesses were examined on the part of the accused; but it was unanimously resolved, "that the petitioners have fully proved the allegations of the petition." Robert Shaw, esq. the other member for the town, then brought in a bill "for the better regulating the town of Galway and for the strengthening the Protestant interest therein," which passed

both houses on the 5th and 9th of December²⁹ following, and enacted, that from and after the 25th of December, 1717, it should be lawful for the sheriffs of the town to issue their summons to any Protestant freeholder having forty shillings a year in the county of Galway, to attend or serve on any grand or petty jury, for the trial of issues depending in the said county of the town, in any plea of the crown, whether capital or not; and that such freeholders should be and were thereby required to serve upon any such jury, and such verdict as should be given should be as effectual and valid as if the issue had been tried by the freeholders of the town; and that it should be lawful for said sheriffs, on every venire facias, distringas, habeas corpora, writ or precept directed to them, to summon a competent number of the freeholders of the said county of Galway, being Protestants, to attend on every grand inquest and trial, in any plea of the crown, at the assizes, or any commission of Oyer and Terminer or gaol delivered there to be had, or at any trial at bar in his majesty's court of king's bench, Dublin, in any plea of the crown in such manner as they might have done to the freeholders of the county of the town, under such pains, penalties and forfeitures, and in the same manner and form, and with the like benefit of challenges, as if they were freeholders within the county of the town, and that all fines and issues imposed on them should be estreatd into the exchequer: and further, after reciting that it would be a great encouragement to the then Protestant inhabitants to continue, and to other Protestants to come to the town, if foreigners or persons living out of the county of the town and liberties were excluded from being magistrates, sheriffs or common councilmen within the town, it was enacted, that from and after the 25th of December, 1717, no person or persons should be elected mayor, or sheriffs, or common councilmen, who should not be an inhabitant or inhabitants within the town and liberties at the time of being elected, and resident for one year before such election.³⁰ That it should and might be lawful for the lord chancellor, lords and commissioners, or other keeper or keepers of the great seal for the time being, by commission under the seal, to appoint such person and persons, not exceeding four in number, being inhabitants of the town or liberties thereof, to be justice or justices of the peace and quorum, during his majesty's

29. While this bill was in progress through the house of lords, Francis, lord Laron Athenry Dominick Burke, Alexander Lynch, and other Protestant members of the corporation, presented petitions against it; lord Athenry stating, "that it subjected his honour to the highest imputation." They were heard by council, who urged many powerful reasons against the bill; but prejudice was too strong at the time, and their opposition was ineffectual.—Com. Jour.

30. By stat. 21 Geo. II. Chap. 10, sect. 8. after reciting that many towns and boroughs in Ireland which sent members to parliament, had been theretofore obli-

ged. for want of Protestant inhabitants resident, to elect into the office of burgesses, and other offices, persons who did not inhabit or could not be resident, and that doubts had arisen upon their acting, and that it was even then impracticable to find Protestant inhabitants whereby controversies were likely to ensue as to the legality of such elections; it was enacted, that no person duly elected an officer in any town corporate or borough (not being a city) should be ousted or molested only for not being an inhabitant or resident at the time of election,—vol. VI. p. 851,

pleasures, in and throughout the county of the town and liberties thereof, with the same power as any other justice of peace, by charter or otherwise. That all and every person and persons, professing him or themselves of any trade, mystery or handicraft, that should come to inhabit, dwell or reside in the town, in order to follow their respective trades, should and were thereby declared to be free of the town and corporation of Galway, and also of that company or corporation to which their respective trades belonged, without paying anything for such freedom, and should continue freemen as long as he or they should inhabit or dwell in the town, and no longer, and should be exempted and freed from all corporation taxes and fines for not serving as beadle, for the space of seven years next after his or their coming to inhabit in the town; provided that no person or persons were to have the benefit of their freedoms, as aforesaid, unless he or they had been professed Protestants for seven years, or upwards, next before his or their demanding their freedoms pursuant to the act, and should also take the usual oaths of freeman, and the oath of allegiance, supremacy and abjuration, and make and subscribe the declaration, commonly called the declaration against transubstantiation, before the mayor of the town, who was thereby empowered and required to administer the same: and finally reciting, that since his majesty's happy accession to the crown, and particularly during the late rebellion in Great Britain, divers unqualified persons, and some of them of known or suspected disaffection to his majesty's government, had been elected sheriffs within the town of Galway, and, upon pretence of such their election, had all of them been admitted into and sworn of the common council, notwithstanding they had not been approved of by the chief governor and council of the kingdom to be sheriffs; and that all such elections, without such approbation, were utterly null and void; and that divers other unqualified and disaffected persons had been admitted into the common council since the 1st August, 1714. It was, for the further security of the town, finally enacted, that the election and admission of all and every person and persons who had been so admitted and sworn since that day, except such as had been approved of, sworn and served as sheriffs of the town, should be, and were thereby declared null and void to all intents and purposes.³¹—Such were the provisions of this elaborate and local enactment, (now known by the name of the "Galway Act,") by which the town was for some time after regulated, but which the increasing liberality of succeeding times has rendered of little other use, at the present day, than to become a subject of historical narration, and to remain a lasting memorial of the liberal feelings by which this and similar laws were enacted against the Catholics of Ireland.

Amidst the numberless restraints which were thus daily and hourly imposed upon the defenceless inhabitants of Galway and its vicinity they still retained a portion of the commercial enterprise which formerly distinguished their ancestors; and trade, notwithstanding the many impediments under

³¹. Stat. 4 Geo. I. Chap. 15.

which it languished, was not altogether neglected.³² The severe scrutiny however, to which the merchants were exposed, and the heavy duties imposed on their goods, induced many persons, in order to avoid the rigor of the officers and the exactions of the revenue, to enter into a contraband trade, which, notwithstanding the vigilance of the officers gradually increased, and the practice of "smuggling" for many years afterwards continued prevalent in the town.³³ Its open and regular commerce increased or diminished, as the penal laws were suspended or put in execution against the inhabitants. In some years after this period, when the vehemence of persecution began to subside, trade seemed on the increase, but it lasted only for a while: the spirit of the inhabitants was broken down by repeated aggressions and angry visitations under the penal laws: whatever remnant of trade and commerce had remained in the town gradually declined. Though some partial efforts were from time to time made to restore them,³⁴ all were ineffectual; and the present reduced state of the commerce of Galway affords a melancholy proof of the destructive policy of those laws, which, during the greater part of the last century, cramped the energies and impeded the prosperity of the country.

On the rumour of an intended Spanish invasion of Ireland in the year 1718, lord St. George, the governor of the town, received dispatches from the secretary of state in Dublin, "that the king, having had advice that the Spaniards intended to make an attempt on some part of his dominions in Ireland, and that they were then transporting troops for the purpose, was

32. A return of the revenues received in the town about this period remains on record in the office of the remembrancer of the exchequer. They amounted—

		£	s	d
In 1715	to	5683	1	11
—17		6997	11	10
—23		6936	1	10

In the latter year the market customs and gateage duties were set as follows, viz.

	£	s	d
Tolls	160	0	0
Farthings	70	10	0
East	60	10	0
West	24	10	0
The quay	11	15	0
Wood-quay	11	15	0

Corporation Book, F. £339 0 0

33. The following "account of the holes and passages in the town wall of Galway, through which brandy and other goods are conveyed into the town by night-time," was taken soon after this period.

Above the bridge a hole broke through the town wall, by the tuck-mill, which opens a passage into a yard leading to abbey-gate-street, and a hole near it into the nunnery yard.

A large breach in the town wall, by Dominick Bodkin's house.

Below the bridge, a door broke through

the town wall into a tan-yard.

A door in the town wall, into Peter Lynch's house.

A door near the mayor's house.

A passage through Martin's-mill into Kirwan's-lane.

A door in the town wall into Michael Cavanagh's, alias Brown's-house.

By the marsh, a hole broke through at Val Browne's house, shut up and opened as often as he has occasion to bring ankers of brandy into town.

A hole likewise broke through the wall, where James Browne Fitz-Barth lives; formerly one Nolan much frequented it.

A large conduit into Simon Lynch's yard, much frequented in the running trade.

A hole through the town hall into Jonathan Bodkin's yard, shut up now, but opened as often as he has occasion. MS. Report.

34. In the year 1730, during the mayoralty of John Staunton, esq. it was ordered in common council, that Francis Lynch, of London, in case he should procure Galway to be established a port for the exportation of wool, and that a perpetual act of parliament to that effect should be passed by his management and at his expense should have the charter duties on the export of wool for six years.—Corporation Book. — This measure, however, appears never to have been accomplished.

pleased to signify that major-general Wynne should be sent to Galway to command the forces quartered there for the defence of the town in case of an invasion." The general accordingly took the command on the 27th of March, 1719; and, having reviewed the fortifications, and put the town into a state of defence, he transmitted a full account of the condition and state of the entire to government, by whom several other repairs and improvements were directed. No attempt having been made by the enemy, as was apprehended, the strict military regulations then established in the garrison were by degrees laid aside. In the year 1725, a new commission of array issued, and the deficiencies of officers and men in the town militia were filled up. The inhabitants from thence enjoyed an interval of peace until the year 1731, when they endured the most severe penal visitation which had taken place for many years before, but which was also the last of the kind ever since experienced. On the 6th of November, in that year, an order was made by the house of lords, that Walter Taylor, esq. then mayor of the town, should return an account of all the mass-houses in the town, and which of them had been built since 1st Geo. I. and what number of priests officiated in each, and also an account of all private mass-houses and popish chapels, and all commonly reputed nunneries and friaries, and what number of friars and nuns were in each, and what popish schools were within the town. The mayor accordingly issued his warrants to the sheriffs, requiring them to apprehend and commit all popish archbishops, bishops, jesuits, friars, and all other popish ecclesiastical persons whom they should find within the town and county thereof; and likewise to suppress all monasteries, friaries, nunneries, and other popish fraternities and societies. Upon return of their proceedings to the house, their lordships, "could not omit observing, that the insolence of the Papists throughout the nation is very great."³⁵ A particular detail of this visitation will be found in the accounts of the different religious foundations of the town, which are contained in another part of this volume.³⁶ From the proceedings and resolutions of the house of lords, it would appear as if all its fancied apprehensions of danger from the Catholics had arisen from this part of the kingdom, and particularly from Galway, to which its attention was principally directed. But these instances of persecution, which, for some time past, had been much more

35. The Catholic inhabitants then residing in Galway, who had given security, as required by Stat. 2 Anne, were one hundred and seventy-six; and the heads of families who had not entered into security were eight hundred and sixty-one. Total, 1037 heads of Catholic families then residing in the town.—Com. Jour.

36. That part of the report which related to "popish" schools, stated that the mayor, on the information of Mr. Garnett, master of the free school, gave him his warrant against one Gregory French whom he alleged to be a popish school-master, and to keep a Latin school; and that having called upon Mr. Garnett to know what he had done under the warrant, he

said that French had dropped his school; and being further examined, he declared he knew of no other Latin school, and that he could give no account of any other, or of any English or writing schools, except that some of his scholars went out of school daily to learn to write, but could not tell from whom. He referred the mayor, however, to a licensed school-master, who returned the names of Lally Bermingham, Thomas Adams, Nicholas Cox, William Caseberry, Thomas Burke, George Foster, Denis Creaghane and Bryan Hynes, popish school-masters and teachers of reading, writing and arithmetic. Com. Jour. Vol. III. p. 170.

severe than frequent, henceforth ceased, and, since this last and most violent gasp of expiring bigotry, the Catholic population of Galway, with very few exceptions, have remained unmolested on account of their religion. In the year 1740, a return was made, pursuant to the directions of government, of the state of the town militia. It then consisted of "three hundred effective Protestant inhabitants," divided into five companies, the particulars of which were laid before the lords justices, and a list of the officers was also submitted for their approbation.³⁷ There being no arms in the town, an order issued, in 1743, for one thousand muskets and bayonets for the town and county, of which two hundred and fifty were delivered to the militia by colonel Wynne, then governor of the town. A return of the ordnance in the garrison was soon after made, by which it appeared there were in the town ninety-three pieces of cannon, but that almost the entire were dismounted and unserviceable.³⁸ During the Scottish rebellion in 1745, the old prejudices against the Catholics were, for a while, revived; all persons entering or leaving the town underwent inspection; the gates (which formerly remained open until 10 o'clock at night) were closed every day at four in the afternoon, and the strictest military discipline was established in the garrison. These precautions, however, were laid aside soon after the

37. First company.

Dominick Burke, esq. vice E. Eyre, deceased, captain.

Robert Cook, Alderman, vice J. Fenquire, deceased, 1st lieutenant.

Robert McMullen, alderman, vice Geoffrey Cook, 2nd lieutenant.

Henry Lewis, burgess, vice Thomas Holland, ensign.

Second Company.

Henry Ellis, esq. vice G. Staunton, deceased, captain.

James Disney, alderman, vice T. Hendron, deceased, 1st lieutenant.

Mathew Pennefather, alderman, vice E. Barrett, deceased, 2nd lieutenant.

Ambrose Poole, vice Howel Price, deceased, ensign.

Third Company.

Rickard Fitzpatrick, esq. vice S. Simcocks, deceased, captain.

Francis Simcocks, alderman, vice F. Simcocks, 1st lieutenant.

William Hinde, alderman, vice Robert Andrews, 2nd lieutenant.

Aston Swanwick, burgess, vice M. Hughes, deceased, ensign.

Fourth Company.

Thomas Shaw, esq. vice Robert Shaw, deceased, captain.

Charles Gerry, alderman, vice G. Gerry, deceased, 1st lieutenant.

Robert Andrews, alderman, vice, Wm. Hinde, 2nd lieutenant.

Simon Trulock, burgess, vice E. Shields, deceased, ensign.

Fifth Company.

James Ribett Vigie, esq. vice J. Ribett

Vigie, sen. deceased, captain.

Thomas Holland, alderman, vice Charles Gerry, 1st lieutenant.

Henry Vaughan, gent. vice E. Rhodes, deceased, 2nd lieutenant.

John Johnson, John Manion, deceased, ensign.

Orig. return, 27th May, 1740.

38. The ordnance was then placed in the following positions round the town.

	guns.
Inside the quay gate on the parade	15
Outside do. on the quay	2
Quay canton	2
Quay bastion	8
The royal battery	3
Citadel, barraek yard	16
Citadel bastion	10
South bastion	16
East bastion	1
North bastion	4
Citadel gun-room, and under it in the street	2
Lyons-tower	8
Abbey-gate	1
Main guard	1
William's-gate, an embrasure shut up	2
William's-gate guard-house	2

Total 95

All dismounted except five, and of these four of the carriages are broken and rotten. There lies in the citadel store one brass mortar 15 inches diameter, weight by estimation 2000lbs. but there are neither budge-barrels, handspikes, nor shafts for ladles or rammers to serve the cannon.

Richard Hudson, gunner.

event which occasioned them was over; and, since that time, no occurrence which took place in the affairs of these countries, rendered a repetition of similar proceedings necessary in Galway.

In the year 1747, Stratford Eyre was appointed governor of the town and port, and vice-admiral of the province. This gentleman, soon after his appointment, made several returns to government of the state and condition of the town, together with the port, harbour, and surrounding fortifications. From these documents, which contain many local particulars long since forgotten, it appears, that the fortifications were then entirely out of repair, and in a ruinous condition. In one return he stated that the gates were all decayed, and particularly that the gate at the parade quay had entirely fallen to the ground. From the royal battery to the quay bastion, a distance of twelve hundred and eighty feet, there were several breaches in the parapets, which rendered it dangerous and unsafe to post sentinels on that part of the walls. Between the west gate and Lyons tower, a distance of 1240ft., several holes were broke through, and cross walls were raised as high as the parapets, to inclose and shut in several back yards, the better to conceal prohibitive goods. From the Lyons tower to the royal nine-gun battery, at William's gate, there was a breach quite to the ground, in length one hundred and fifty-five feet; and there was no passage whatever for drawing artillery to the north bastion, or any communication or way for the relief, but by stepping across the embrasures over William's gate. The walls in many places were bulged and might be easily scaled; the platforms were broke up and sunk, and the embrasures filled up and covered with dirt and weeds. The walls of the castle and citadel barracks were very much out of repair, and in some places it was not safe for a sentinel to stand on them, and the citadel bastion (which was the only part of the town the then small garrison could hope to maintain or defend, if attacked by an enemy without, or an insurrection within,) was quite unserviceable. In this state the smallest privateer might sail into the harbour and insult the garrison with impunity, and no assistance could be given from the town to any ship, if attacked in the bay. It was then recommended that the most effectual means to protect and secure the harbour would be to re-erect the battery formerly on Mutton-island, for which there were sufficient cannon to spare in the town, and to rebuild the small barrack which stood there for half a company of soldiers. By another return, dated the 23rd October, 1747, it appears that no part of the Lyons tower was then remaining but the walls, though, if repaired, it would be of essential service in defending the town; that the nine-gun battery and the south bastion were in a defenceless state; and that it would be absolutely necessary for the defence of the town that they should be repaired, as they were the only works pointing to Fort-hill (where the fort had been formerly erected, of which nothing then remained but the ruins of a guard-house,) against which, if possessed by an enemy with artillery, the town would not be tenable. From the royal battery to the quay bastion, along the curtain, there were several breaches (wide enough to receive hogsheads,) made by smugglers who inhabited the adjacent houses; and on this curtain

there were two projecting flankers which might be repaired at a small expense; and if three guns were mounted on that called "the Devil's Battery," they would be essentially serviceable in defending the curtain. The quay bastion (from whence alone an enemy in the port might be annoyed with ordnance, and which also covered the bridge, and was the only place for defending the town in case of an attack from the west,) was rendered useless by encroachments and buildings erected on it. Beyond this there was another bastion called "the Quay Canton," of which the platform was tolerable; and from the quay bastion to the end of the curtain, behind the county gaol, the wall was good. At the extremity of this there was room to erect a small battery, which might be of great service in covering the west gate, and defending the town if attacked from that quarter, this being the only entrance from Iar-Connaught, (the highlands of the country,) which was inhabited by a people whom it would be prudent to guard against, and to have a watchful eye over, and which was the most likely place in this part of Ireland for an enemy to make a descent on. From thence to the bridge the town wall broke off, and that space was closed by mills, tan-yards and dwelling-houses. The river ran by in a sharp current, and there were several windows and doors which opened to the water, through which people had admittance to town when the gates were locked; but the governor, on seeing some passing that way, had them stopped up. At the west there was formerly a draw-bridge, and over the gateway a guard-room, which was repaired and fitted up for a corporal and six men. At the lower yard of the condemned barrack, adjoining the bridge, a battery might be erected, which would also secure the bridge. From thence to Abbey-gate, and along to Lyons tower, there was a very decayed and weak old wall, by which the river ran in a shallow channel as far as the Abbey-gate. There were no flankers or towers in all that space, but there were several holes open for the conveniency of running goods, which the governor had closed up. From Sander's-lane to Lyons tower there was a rampart fourteen feet broad, in the memory of several persons then living, but no trace thereof remained; it had been thrown into gardens at the back of Lombard-street, and nothing was left but the walls, which were scarce broad enough for a single person to walk upon. There were two powder magazines, one in Lombard-street and one in the Citadel, both of which were very insecure, and unsafe places to keep powder in, being the loftiest of all the surrounding houses, and so remarkably conspicuous that they might be distinguished from the other buildings at the distance of a mile from either side of the town, added to which they were not bomb-proof. The dilapidated state of the walls was attributed to "breaches made at different times by unregistered Papist merchants, (who, by express laws, had been prohibited from living within the town or liberties,) the more effectually to run goods and to carry on the smuggling trade;" but it was added, "that if the money arising from the tolls and customs were applied to their repair, they would be kept in a respectable and good state of defence." In order to prevent further encroachments on the walls or injury to the fortifications,

as well as to provide for the better security of the town, it was recommended that the guards should be doubled,³⁹ and several other alterations were zealously suggested, which, perhaps, as not being considered necessary by government, do not appear to have been attended to. The mouldering fortifications of Galway were, therefore, suffered gradually to decay; the enlightened rulers of the country, even then, wisely foreseeing that it was not upon the precarious tenure of a few uncertain garrisons, but upon the general conciliation of the people, that the English interest would be most beneficially advanced and strengthened in Ireland.

Governor Eyre, though, to all the knowledge and experience of the soldier, he appears to have united the accomplishments of the gentlemen and the information of the scholar, still, having been bred in the old military school, he, like many others, imbibed all the leading prejudices of the times against his fellow-subjects of the Catholic persuasion, from whom he was taught to apprehend every danger both to church and state. He, therefore, viewed all their actions with a watchful and jealous eye, and, during his continuance as governor, never failed to communicate his apprehensions to government.⁴⁰ These feelings, having also influenced his management

39. Before 1747, sentinels were placed at the following stations—William's outside gate—William's inside gate by the guard-house—Abbey gate—West gate—West gate guard-room—Gaol quay gate—Parade quay gate—Citadel magazine—Castle barraek gate—South bastion, where the only cannon are mounted—Stairs on the quay parade—Quay bastion—Main guard—Old condemned barrack gate, to preserve the king's house, and to have an eye to the town gaol—Back of the said barrack, the town being open there—End of Sander's-lane, to watch the back of Lombard-street magazine, adjacent to which are private gardens and a Franciscan nunnery—Governor's house—Commanding officer's barrack—Collector's house—Total 20. In 1747, the governor represented the following sentinels as necessary, viz.

Two at each of the five gates in the town

On the walls from the royal bastion to the west gate 2076 feet at proper distance

On the walls from the west gate to Lyons tower, 1240 ditto

On the walls from Lyons tower to the castle, 792 ditto

On the several bastions, viz. William's, South, Royal, Devil's, Quay, Lyons, North and the Citadel, one on each

At the four several guard-rooms, viz. main guard, William's gate, Abbey-gate and West-gate

At the three several and distinctly separate barrack gates

Powder magazines, being in separate store houses

At the town and county gaols 2,

collector's door 1, commanding officer's door 1, governor's house 2, and infirmary 1

7

Total 44

He afterwards recommended that 20 sentry-boxes of brick and stone should be built at the following posts, and stated them to be absolutely necessary for the security of the town, the protection of his majesty's revenues, and the preservation of the walls from breaches, through which smugglers were continually attempting to introduce run goods, viz. at William's gate—Abbey-gate—West-gate—Water-gate—Quay-gate—Custom-house—Quay-parade, at the foot of the stairs ascending the town wall, at Magennis's house, where the town is open to the river since the bridge barraek was built—At the end of Saunder's-lane, where McDonough, the informer, was kidnapped by the smugglers, and conveyed out of the town—On the wall, back of Lombard-street barrack—At the powder magazine—On the wall at Lyons tower—On the wall over William's gate—On the bastion that points to the lake—Within the gate of the bridge—Lombard-street barraek—At the powder magazine—On the walls between the nine-gun battery—and at the quay bastion—Total 20.—Also, that a magazine should be erected for lodging the powder of the garrison, but none except the last appears to have been completed.—Orig. MS.

40. In December, 1747, it was represented to government that the town of Galway was a post of very great consequence, and no garrison in Ireland required more the care and attention of a governor, especially in time of war; there

in the town, often involved him in unpleasant contentions with the inhabitants. Amongst other alterations which he made after his appointment, that of closing the gates at the early hour of four in the afternoon, leaving the wickets only open until evening, was considered particularly annoying. This practice the town's-people resented as a general inconvenience, never resorted to except in cases of public apprehension or danger, and that, when no such had existed, so strict a regulation became totally unnecessary. Accordingly the mayor, sheriffs, deputy recorder and other members of the corporation, waited on the governor, with a memorial, signed by themselves and several others of the Protestant and many of the Catholic inhabitants, requesting that he would permit the gates to remain open until eight o'clock in the evening, and the wickets until ten, according to ancient custom. Upon his declining to comply with the requisition, a memorial was presented to the lord lieutenant, in his answer to which, the governor adduced many reasons to justify his refusal. He assured his excellency, that this complaint against him had its rise, not from any real inconvenience or detriment, but from party prejudice; and stated that he was possessed of proofs to shew that the mayor and sheriffs had received presents from the Papists, to "nose" and insult him, and to represent him as distressing the inhabitants, and putting them under difficulties injurious to the trade and commerce of the town.¹ As to closing the gates at an early hour, the greatest possible necessity existed for such a measure. The town lay at an extreme point; there was no travelling by land beyond it, and it was not a thoroughfare. The entrance for all land traffic was at the east gate; and beyond the west gate lay *Iar-Connaught*, a country inaccessible to wheel carriages, and inhabited by Papists, who supplied the markets with such necessaries only as were brought in on back-loads: the wickets, therefore.

being six friaries and nunneries, two Popish chapels, eight Popish schools, above thirty Papists to a Protestant, and at least two hundred popish ecclesiastics within the town and suburbs, many of whom were agents and emissaries, and all of them affected to the interests of France and Spain, for whose success they publicly prayed in their chapels.

That numbers of popish ecclesiastics arrived daily in Galway from abroad, by way of Holland to Cork, and appeared publicly in the streets: and to such a degree of insolence were the Papists grown in the town, that one of them insulted a clergyman of the established church; others struck the town sheriffs, and many notoriously interested themselves in the election of town magistrates, and appeared in plaid vests.

That riots and mobs were frequent, and within the last twelve months three sentinels had been knocked down at the west gate, one of them by two Dominican friars named Burke and Geoghegan, and the other two by Papists.

That of late years several old Protes-

tants, and the children of such, had been perverted to the popish religion, by the indefatigable assiduity, diligence and unlimited and uncontrolled access these ecclesiastics had to the town and suburbs indiscriminately.

That being alarmed and apprehensive for the safety of the garrison, at the great increase, power and influence of popery therein, and the formidable number of Papists in and about the town, (considering the defenceless and ruinous condition of the walls and fortifications,) the governor thought it his duty to represent those several particulars.—Orig. MS.

1. The governor attributed the resentment of the merchants on this occasion to an order which, he stated, he obtained from the secret committee of the East India Company, requiring the captains of their ships in the port not to communicate or transact their affairs with Papists, who might betray them, but to employ Protestants, such as he would recommend.—Id,

(which were large enough for any horse or cow to pass through,) being open until nine at night in winter and ten in summer, trade could not be interrupted in that quarter. The two gates towards the west led to the quay; and as all custom-house business ceased in the evening, when the revenue officers retired, it could inconvenience none but smugglers, or recruits for foreign service, (and many of each frequented the town,) to keep these gates any longer open. The two other entrances were at the Abbey and William's gate. Through the first nothing but turf and water entered, and private brewers and distillers only would draw home either after night-fall. Fuel was brought down Lough-corrib and landed at the Wood-quay, where it was taken up in kishes, and wheeled into the town. Through William's gate, being the grand entrance, all carriages and inland merchants goods were brought for exportation or market; but the inns and stables being in the east suburbs, and no accommodation in the town, it could be no detriment to trade, that goods, which arrived after the gates were locked, (and which, according to a constant prudential practice, were always examined at the gate, lest ammunition or arms were concealed,) should remain for one night where the carriers and horses which brought them should unavoidably set up. Moreover, carriages could not so effectually be inspected in the dark; and as there were no other but popish merchants in the town, (though they were forbidden by express laws from inhabiting therein, and had been formerly every man turned out,) the caution of examining chests and casks consigned to them appeared evidently reasonable and prudent. As to conveniences for life destined for market, the same reason held good. Besides, in all well-regulated markets, till the bell rung at a certain hour, nothing was suffered to be sold; therefore market-folk had no business in town till the morning of the market day; for, should they be permitted to come in over night, they would be surrounded by forestallers and regrators, who would purchase their commodities, and retail them next day at an extravagant price.

Having thus shewn how neither the trade, commerce, markets or fair-dealing inhabitants could be injured or inconvenienced by locking the town gates, the advantages which attended the measure were next to be considered. It was of service to his majesty's revenue, by preventing private brewing and distilling, and operated as a check upon smugglers, who would otherwise convey unentered goods into and out of the town. It was a great security to the garrison from surprise, for no man could pass through the wickets unquestioned by the sentinel, and, for that reason, would be a restraint on ill-designing men, and French recruiters, from coming into the town. All strangers were examined at the gates, a caution which could not be observed so effectually in the night time, when a crowd might rush in through a wide gateway, and these precautions were at the time absolutely necessary, as several French officers, of Irish birth and extraction, were then in town with their relations.² There was also every probability that the

2. About this time it was also represented, that two Irish officers of the name of Sars-Burke, belonging to Dillon's regiment, who were made prisoners at Culloden, appeared publicly in town; and that one Sars-Burke, belonging to Dillon's regiment, field, (of Lally's regiment,) an avowed

restless, active, subtle and industrious agents and emissaries of Rome, the popish ecclesiastics then in the town, might work on their devotees, (who were exceedingly numerous,) and precipitate them to attempt to seize upon the garrison. They might represent to them that the undertaking was feasible, as the possessors seemed to think themselves in perfect security: that the garrison, arms and ammunition they would thereby possess, would secure them from being dislodged for some months, in which time they would have succour from France: that the country being devoted to the same cause, they would be sufficiently supplied with provisions: that their friends would, at the same time, rise upon the several troops quartered at Headford, Loughrea and Gort, which would make them masters of the whole country: that their success would encourage other disaffected parts of the kingdom to rise; at least, that the government, mistrustful of their inclinations, would not venture to draw off troops from such parts, and could not, therefore, bring together a number sufficient to recover the town without a train of artillery, without which it would be impossible to drive them out: and that, supposing the worst, they might, in the end, make a safe retreat into the inaccessible highlands of Iar-Connaught and Joyce-Country, and there remain in perfect security, until an opportunity should offer to carry them off to France. Finally, to lay grounds for all these alarming conjectures, allusion was made to the insolent behaviour of the Papists and their clergy, at Galway, in September, 1745, upon the appearance, on the coast, of the homeward-bound East India Fleet, consisting of fourteen sail, whilst they were supposed to be the Ferrol squadron; which proved how ripe they were to lay hold of every occasion to attempt the subversion of the government. All these representations, however, forcible as they were, and so well calculated to arouse the attention and to excite the alarm of government, proved ineffectual. The rulers of the country were well aware that the Catholics had neither the power, nor yet the inclination, to give any disturbance; and that, according to the declaration of a distinguished senator in the house of commons, soon after that period, "not a man of them moved tongue, pen or sword," upon that or any other occasion, to give the slightest uneasiness to the government. They remained, therefore, unmolested in Galway, where they have ever since given continual proof of their steady loyalty and sincere affection, from principle, for the government of the country.

Notwithstanding the many impediments under which the Catholic inhabitants laboured, their numbers considerably increased, while the Protestant part of the population appears to have as rapidly diminished.³ Many

Jacobite, he escaped from that battle, was also seen in the neighbourhood, and at the house of his kinsman, Robert Martin, of Dangan, who, it was stated, "could, in twenty-four hours bring at least eight hundred men to the gates of the town, as absolutely devoted to him as the Camerons to Lochiel."—Orig. MS.

3. In the year 1762, it was stated in the house of commons, on the part of the corporation, that Galway was mostly inhabited by Papists, and that the population of the town and liberties amounted to fourteen thousand souls, of which scarcely three hundred and fifty were Protestants.—Com. Jour. Vol. VIII.

animosities, however, still subsisted between them: the latter were supported by law, enjoyed the favour and protection of government, and, exclusively composing the members and officers of the corporation, possessed all the municipal power, which, in many cases, they exercised rather severely against their more numerous, though less favoured town's-men.⁴ Whatever portion of its former trade remained in the place was chiefly confined to the Catholic merchants; but they were so oppressed by excessive charter-duties and other unauthorised exactions of the corporation, that they, by degrees, abandoned the town, and this trifling remnant of its former commercial greatness gradually declined:⁵ thus affording another proof of the fatal tendency of those proscribing laws, which so long prevented, and whose surviving effects even still, in several instances, operate against the prosperity of Ireland.

Upon the happy accession of his present majesty to the throne of these realms, (a circumstance which will be ever gratefully remembered and commemorated with joy by the Catholics of Ireland, as the termination of their heavy political sufferings, and the cause of their now enjoying many of the privileges of our invaluable constitution,) the people of Galway, encouraged by that auspicious event, and also by the increasing liberality of the times, ventured to petition parliament against the partial and illegal proceedings (as they termed them) of the corporation.⁶ Their statement, which was entitled, "The petition of the merchants and inhabitants of the town of

4 The power of quartering or billeting soldiers was vested in the mayor; and several complaints were, from time to time, made by the inhabitants, of the partial and oppressive exercise of this authority. Many of them, to avoid the burden, underwent annual contribution to the mayors; and such of the rest as did not send yearly presents were surely visited by a file of these troublesome inmates. Some, who remonstrated, were committed to prison, and compelled to take the oaths, or pay certain fines. In the year 1749, upon some remonstrances of this kind by the inhabitants, they were summoned before the mayor, who threatened that, unless they instantly complied with his orders, he would put the Popery act (which hindered them from residing in the town) into immediate execution.—Id.

5. In 1742, the trade of the town began rapidly to decline. From the year 1734 to 1738, the merchants, under all their disqualifications, had fourteen or fifteen ships at sea; but in 1762, there were only three or four vessels belonging to the town; one only, laden with beef, cleared out during the entire year 1761; and another, freighted with butter, 1762.—Id.

6. The following communication from the "mayor, sheriffs, and sundry resident free burgesses and freemen," to John Eyre and Rickard Fitzpatrick, esqrs. re-

presentatives of the town, dated 10th November, 1761, (which was commonly called the "Black Petition,") will evince the feelings of the then corporation for the remainder of the inhabitants.—It stated that several shopkeepers and dealers, of the Roman Catholic communion, assumed a privilege of selling, and exposing to sale, divers commodities and manufactures, to the manifest prejudice of the Protestant tradesmen and artificers, freemen of the town: that they employed journeymen, and carried on branches of handicraft business, which they exposed to sale in their shops, without being competent judges of the goods so manufactured, and without serving any legal apprenticeship to any such art, craft or mystery, contrary to the real intent and meaning of the Galway act, and the royal charters granted to their ancient corporation. They then informed them, that they heard that Mr. Perry, one of the representatives for Limerick, had promised his constituents to employ his best endeavours in obtaining an act of parliament for redress of the aforesaid grievances, and therefore requested that they would concur in promoting such an act, and also to add such clause or clauses in favour of the freemen of Galway as might effectually restrain such shopkeepers and dealers from the like practices for the future, to the furthering and promoting the Protestant interest among them in general,

Galway, and the gentlemen, freeholders and farmers of the county of Galway, in behalf of themselves and others, the inhabitants of the said town and county," was presented by Robert French, esq. of Monivea, an active senator, and one of the most opulent and respectable of the descendants of the ancient Galway families; and it informed the house,⁷ "That the corporation had charters to levy off all goods, imported and exported, certain duties, which were granted for the particular purpose of paving the streets, repairing the walls, and keeping the custom-house quay and other public

and encouraging the tradesmen and artificers of the town to make necessary and useful improvements in the manufactories of their several callings.

Signed,

Charles Rivett, mayor.
 John Mandeville, } sheriffs.
 James Galbraith, }
 Henry Ellis.
 John Hamlin.
 James Jones
 Richard Mathews.
 Joseph Seymour.
 Henry White.
 George Drury.
 Henry Covey.
 James Foster.
 George Staunton.
 John Grace.
 Edward Murphy.
 Charles Lopdell.
 Elias Tankerville.
 John Mortimer.
 Hugh Montgomery.
 Henry Vesey, warden.
 Edmund French.
 Rodolphus Kent.
 Edward Dodgworth.
 Luke Dodgworth.

It is a singular fact, that many of those persons and their descendants afterwards became members of the Catholic persuasion: the son of one of them is at present Catholic warden of Galway.

7. The petition against the corporation was supported by several witnesses, whose evidence contains many particulars concerning the town, before and at this period, from which, as not being elsewhere to be found, the following short abstract is taken. Andrew French, (who principally promoted the petition for the purpose of abolishing the charter duties, as they were not applied to the public use of paving the town and keeping the walls in repair, and whose father and grandfather were respectable merchants in the town, since the beginning of that century,) after stating, that in some years he and they paid 5 or 6000*l.* duties to the crown; in 1761, only 1,200*l.*; very little the year before; but in 1758 and 1759, about 4 or 5,000*l.*; proved that since the year 1712 or 1714, they paid over and above, be-

tween 2 and 5,000*l.* for charter duties and perquisites to the corporation: (whereout its witnesses could not prove that any had been expended for the purposes directed by the charters, except that a sum had been, about the year 1731, applied to repair part of the walls and build a guard-house: that 5*l.* a year were given for mending the locks of the town gates: that the main guard-house and officers room were kept in repair; that 14*l.* were expended in 1757, to repair the quays; and that the pavements between the two east gates, before William's gate guard, the main guard, the town gaol, and county court-house and gaol, the whole quay, the bridge, the tholsel, for half the breadth of the street, and the centre, of the square in the parade, had been and were then paved at the expense of the corporation.) He also proved that out of every one thousand deal boards imported, the mayor, without any authority, exacted 10 as a perquisite, besides the charter duties, the water bailiffs ten, and the warden 3, (which last originated in Catholic times, to make coffins for the poor, and which he believed the then warden never applied to that use;) and that out of every cargo of salt, six bushels went to the mayor, six to the sheriffs, three to the recorder, six to the water bailiffs, and six to the warden, which were worth from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* a bushel; and that 4*d.* a ton was taken for kelp, which was then the principal export of the town. It was also proved that every country butcher was obliged to give, yearly, two stone of tallow to the mayor, and two more to the sheriffs: that the 12*d.* house-hold loaf weighed eleven pounds: that 7*d.* was exacted for every boat load of turf, containing from twenty to forty statute kish, then worth about 9*d.* each; that every fishing-boat (about one hundred and sixty) belonging to the town was compelled to pay 6*d.* yearly for entering; also two hundred herrings annually to the mayor, the same to the sheriffs, and a like-number to the water bailiffs, besides two hundred more for liberty to dry their nets on the shore, which were exacted by the owner of the soil. Several other instances of illegal exaction were also adduced, for which the reader is referred to the Commons Journals, Vol. VII. Appendix.

buildings in good order and repair, but that these objects had ceased, for that government, for many years past, had been at the whole expense of repairing the walls; and the petitioners were obliged to pave the streets at their own expense: that the custom-house quay was most shamefully neglected, and so far gone to ruin as to render it unsafe for any vessel above thirty tons burden to load or unload there: that the corporation had, notwithstanding, all along levied the charter duties, which, with an additional unwarranted charge upon every vessel coming to the town, enhanced the price of goods and merchandise, imported and exported, nearly three per cent. to the very great detriment of the merchants, who were thereby rendered incapable of selling their goods upon equal terms with the other trading towns in the kingdom: that, for many years past, great extortions were practised by the toll-gatherers at the gates and markets of the town: that the fishery of Galway was capable of being made the most considerable in the kingdom, and, if properly followed and encouraged, would bring wealth to the town, and be the means of rearing a great number of able seamen for his majesty's service; but being so burdened with corporation taxes and perquisites, it was going to ruin and decay, and a great number of able young fishermen were obliged to go to foreign countries to seek for bread, at a time when they might enrich themselves and their families at home, and be useful members of the community, had they met with reasonable encouragement: that the country butchers were prevented, by the exactions of the corporation from supplying the town with meat: that the applotment of the public taxes and vestry money, by the corporation, was partial and unequal, and had become grievous and burdensome: that the billeting of his majesty's troops had been partially, illegally and oppressively executed: that the members of the corporation converted its large revenue to their private benefit: that the only public edifice kept by them was what they called the market-house, though it was no more than a small ground cellar under the military infirmary, from which infection was continually apprehended: that in consequence of these and many other vexatious measures, practised in the administration of the affairs of the town, many families had removed from it, others were prevented from settling, and the gentlemen and farmers of the adjacent counties were discouraged from supplying the markets; in consequence of which, a general complaint had prevailed for a series of years past in the town and country, and the necessaries of life were considerably enhanced, to the great destruction of trade, the diminution of the inhabitants, and impoverishment of the town.—Such were the measures pursued by the corporation of Galway, since the revolution, and such the pernicious consequences which attended their proceedings; all which, after minute investigation before a committee, were pronounced, by the unanimous voice of the legislature, to be true. On the 17th February, 1762, the committee made their report, and submitted their resolutions, which were afterwards confirmed by the entire house, viz. “that the trade of the town, which was formerly very considerable, had greatly declined for some years past: that the several detailed exactions of the corporation were oppressive, unwarranted, inju-

rious to trade, and contrary to law and charter : that they greatly discouraged the fishery of the bay and harbour, which was one of the best in the kingdom : that they took several illegal tolls, and partially and oppressively quartered the military on the inhabitants.

It was, however, also resolved and declared, that the corporation had expended the money arising from the tolls, duties and customs, in the repairs and paving those parts of the streets detailed in the report, and in paying salaries to the mayor and other officers of the corporation, which salaries were highly conducive to the preservation of the peace, order and good government of the town, and were necessary to maintain the authority of magistracy : and they finally reported that the laws in force, if properly executed, were sufficient to redress the grievances committed in the markets, and that it was the duty of the magistrates to see them so executed. During the proceedings of the committee, the corporation proposed to relinquish the perquisites complained of, and to accommodate all matters in dispute, by adhering either to the schedule contained in the charters, or to the agreement entered into, in 1684, with the merchants of the town. These proposals, in the then stage of the business, being rejected, a "petition from the common council, freemen and freeholders of the town, on behalf of themselves and the other Protestant inhabitants of the town and liberties," was presented to the house; wherein, after setting forth their title by charter to the duties, and their offers of accommodation, and the refusal of them, they stated that there were, in the town and liberties, forty Popish inhabitants for one Protestant : that the few Protestant merchants were discouraged from following trade or business, the Papists in general declining to deal with them; and the wealth of the town, or by much the greater part of it, being in their hands, they thereby acquired considerable influence and power over the indigent Protestant tradesmen : that the corporation rents amounted to 150*l.* a year, and their whole revenue (which, exclusive of perquisites, did not exceed 725*l.* annually,) was then, and had been for several years before, scarcely sufficient to pay the salaries of the magistrates and officers, and other necessary expenses; and that, should they be deprived of any part of the tolls, duties and customs granted by the charters, they would not be able to support the honour and dignity of the magistracy, or maintain their independence against the wealth and power of the Popish inhabitants; which would necessarily, as they apprehended, subvert the Protestant interest in the town.—This petition being received, and the committee not having recommended the abolition of the charter duties, which was the principal object of the merchants, the entire terminated in an agreement between them and the corporation. A new schedule of duties and customs was accordingly framed, agreed upon, and presented to the house on the 13th of April, by Mr. French :^{7a} upon which, it was resolved, that it would tend to improve the trade of the town, and be of mutual advantage to the corporation and the inhabitants of the town and county. Thus ended a proceeding, which, though not attended with all the

7a. Vide Appendix, for this schedule.

success originally expected, yet had the effect of reforming the corporation, and of putting an end to many practices which were theretofore prevalent, and which had proved so injurious to the interest of the town.

Circumstanced as, from the preceding accounts, it appears the corporation of Galway was at this period, its landed possessions alienated away, and its members composed of a few resident Protestants, principally tradesmen and shopkeepers, the greater part of whom, according to their own shewing, were without wealth, weight or consequence, (for although there were several respectable non-resident members, they do not appear to have interfered in the affairs of the corporation,) its sinking, as it soon afterwards did, beneath the influence of a single family, headed by an individual of high rank and talents, was inevitable. Since the revolution, the several leading families of Eyre, Shaw, Staunton and Fitzpatrick, successively commanded the representation, and directed the affairs of the town; but the interest of the first generally prevailed. The descendants of judge Daly (who was so conspicuous at that period) afterwards became members of the corporation; and, at the commencement of the present reign, James Daly, of Carrownekelly, his grandson, was the first on the list of the common council of the town.⁸ This gentleman, who was one of the earliest

8. On 1st January, 1764, the common council was composed of the following members, viz.

Rick. Fitzpatrick, } members
J. Eyre, Eyrecourt, } parliament.
James Daly, Carrownekelly.
Charles Daly, of Callow.
Thomas Lambert.
Thomas Taylor.
Edmund Kirwan, of Dalgin.
Dom. Skerrett, of Ballinduff.
Gregory French, of Aggart.
John French, of the same.
Henry French, Tobberpadder.
Thos. Bodkin, of Carrabegg.
Andrew Kirwan, of Cregg.
A. Lynch, of Rafeake, atty.
Thos. French, of Moycullen.
Francis Martin.
Patrick Blake.
Richard Blake.
Peter Kirwan.
Edmund French, vicar.
Edm. Bodkin, of Kileloony.
R. Blake Bodkin, of Annagh.
Robert French.
Edward Eyre.
Robert Eyre, of Eyrecourt.
W. Taylor, of Castletaylor.
Hedges Eyre.
Simon Marshall, collector.
Richard Martin, of Dangan.
Patrick Blake, of Corbally.
Charles Blake, of Coolcun.
J. O'Hara, town clerk and atty.
Thomas Staunton.
D. Burke, Justice of Peace.
John Burke,
Benjamin Burke,
Henry Ellis, Justice of Peace.

J. Staunton, of Youghal.
J. Staunton, recorder.
Thomas Staunton, of Oldberry.
G. Staunton, of Cargin, atty.
John Staunton.
Thomas Simcookes, vicar.
George Simcookes.
H. White, port-surveyor.
Thomas Wadman, vicar.
Francis Wadman.
Rodolp. Kent, barrackmast.
Jervis Hinde.
Thomas Shaw.
Stratford Eyre, governor.
C. Donnellan, hearth-mon.-c.
John Morgan, of Kilcolgan.
John Morgan.
Matthew Pennefather.
Hery Vaughan.
Charles R'vett, apothecary.
T. Kelly, counsellor-at-law.
Bartholomew Hanly, atty.
John Hamlin, attorney.
Thomas Clutterbuck.
Sam Grace, hearth-money-c.
Robert Mitchell, inn-holder.
George Barry.
William Irwine.
Napper Giffard, vicar.
E. Tankerville, watchmaker.
Charles Lopdell.
John Lopdell.
Charles Lopdell.
James Fitzpatrick.
Edmund Fitzpatrick.
Henry Vesey, warden.
James Shree.
Samuel Shone.
Joseph Seymour.
George Lewis,

and firmest advocates of the Catholics of Ireland, had many friends in Galway, whose influence (uniting with that of Richard Fitzpatrick, one of its representatives in parliament, and who had invariably supported the Daly against Eyre interest,) finally succeeded in establishing him and his family in all the rights and privileges of the corporation.

A new and unexpected corporate opponent, nowever, soon after appeared. Patrick Blake, esq. of Drum, who was descended from one of the ancient families of the town, and who appears, though ultimately worsted, to have been actuated by a wish for its general interest, gave considerable trouble. This gentleman was elected mayor in 1771, and the town soon after became a scene of tumult and confusion. One of his first acts of office was the admission of several resident inhabitants to the freedom of the corporation, by which his design to weaken the influence of the Daly family immediately became manifest.⁹ He next disfranchised several non-resident freemen, "because," as the act of council expresses it, "they were elected in violation of the statute for the better regulating of the town of Galway, and strengthening the Protestant interest therein, and in order to perpetuate the government of the corporation in the power of several gentlemen and others of the county of Galway, and elsewhere, who have no interest or concern in the town of Galway, or who pay any scot, lot, or other contribution therein."—These proceedings immediately gave the alarm. Denis Daly, esq. then member for the county, hastened to town, and appointed James (afterwards Sir James) Shee to act as deputy mayor, who, having done so in opposition to those in office, was instantly disfranchised. A memorial was then laid before the chancellor, stating that his lordship was, by stat. 4th Geo. I. empowered to appoint four justices of the peace, who should reside in the town, but that this act was frustrated by the persons who then held the commission not being resident, and praying redress.¹⁰ The following year, a double return of mayor¹¹ and

Crosdaile Shaw.

John Shaw.

John Kelly, of Fidane.

John Gibson, land-waiter.

Edward Murphy.

Aug. Swanwick, tide-waiter.

James Foster, tanner.

James Jones, baker.

Tobias Sherwood, sexton.

Edward Shields, shoe-maker.

George Drury, chandler.

James Galbraith, taylor.

Hugh Wilkinson.

Richard Mathews, shoe-maker.

John Safflow, vintner.

Hugh Montgomery, baker.

Francis Montgomery.

J. Mandeville, upholsterer.

Fred Covey, house-joiner.

Rev. Frederick Gryer.

Richard Truelocke, smith.

George Thomas, glazier.

John Mortimer, weaver.

George Brabazon, esq.

William Joyce.

James Richards, hosier.

Total 104.

9. On this occasion Robert O'Hara, the town clerk, carried away the books, and refused to act; upon which the mayor appointed Nath. Cook in his place, and had a new corporation book immediately provided.—Lib. I.

10. Council, 11th December, 1771, Denis Bowes Daly and several others were then disfranchised, "for interrupting the business this day, and for making a noise and confusion at this and many other councils, although they were required by the mayor to withdraw."—Lib. I.—On 11th February, 1772, another council was held, into which that gentleman and others "forced their way, and, having refused to withdraw, the council was dissolved." Denis Daly was afterwards disfranchised; but peremptory writs of mandamus having issued, he and the several other deprived persons were again restored.—Id.

11. Council, 1st August, 1772, Lord

sheriffs was made, and the privy council approved of Denis Daly to be mayor, and Thomas Bodkin and John Thomas, sheriffs. In the mean time the preceding magistrate and his party held over, and for some years after elected their own mayor, sheriffs, and other corporate officers. Proceedings were instituted in the courts of law, and several disputes and sanguinary duels were, from time to time, the consequences of these corporation feuds. In the year 1775, they burst forth with greater violence than ever. Mr. Daly, however, by his own personal labours, and the indefatigable exertions of his patriotic friends, preserved his ascendancy; and this distinguished, virtuous and patriotic individual, though often obliged to contest, at the point of the sword, with his determined and resolute rival, was ultimately triumphant, and completely succeeded in rendering his influence in the corporation in a manner hereditary in his family.

During the continuance of these disputes, the improvement of the town was forgotten; the walls, gates and fortifications, which were left without repair, presented a most ruinous appearance, and trade was entirely neglected. Though thus circumstanced, the inhabitants had, however, the solitary consolation of being no longer doomed to penal inflictions for their religious tenets. In the year 1778, the first great legislative interference took place in their favour.¹² The flame of patriotism, which soon after spread over the kingdom, shone round this district with peculiar brightness. All that was great, good and respectable of its community, ranged themselves in the lists of the patriots, and the volunteers of Galway presented a military association, which, for respectability of rank, extent of property, or purity of intention, has seldom been equalled. The town soon became conspicuous in the national struggle for independence, and was the first in Ireland that entered into resolutions against the importation or consumption of English goods until the grievances of the nation should be redressed,¹³

Eyre proposed Nathaniel Cook; Ignatius Blake, of Ardfry, proposed Denis Daly; fifty-one voted for the latter and sixty-four for the former, whereupon he was declared duly elected, "because Mr. Daly was not an inhabitant of Galway, and did not spend seven days in the whole within that town, since 1st August, 1770;" but having, notwithstanding, been approved of as above, it was resolved, by the late mayor and his friends, that the other "should hold over until another were properly appointed, and that he should be indemnified for so doing."—Lib. I.—They persisted in this determination for some years afterwards, but were finally obliged to yield.

12. It was not until the year 1782 that the law which subjected Papists to certain penalties, who took any house, or came to dwell in Limerick or Galway, or their suburbs, was repealed by the act then passed, "for the further relief of his majesty's subjects of this kingdom professing the Popish religion."—Stat. 21, 22, Geo. III.

13. These resolutions were of the following import:—

I. We will never vote on any future election for any candidate that will not give a sufficient test not to vote for any money-bill of longer duration than three months, till that clause in the mutiny bill which makes it perpetual is repealed; till Poyning's law is modified; as we hold the privy council now a fourth power in our legislature, and the interference of the English attorney-general in our laws unconstitutional and derogatory to the dignity of the Irish nation.

II. That seeing the partial requests, not only of a shire, but of a petty corporation, in England, more attended to than the just demands of an aggrieved nation, determined us to enter into the following resolution of non-consumption of English goods until our grievances are redressed, viz. That we will not, for ourselves or families, buy from any importer or retailer any English goods made of wool, cotton or silk, or any refined sugar or porter; and we expect from all merchants we deal

an example which was generally followed throughout the kingdom. The town volunteers were embodied on the 31st of May, 1779, and amounted to about four hundred well disciplined troops, divided into six battalions and two flank companies. Richard Martin, esq. of Dangan, their first elected colonel, on a rumour of having supported the then administration, was deprived of the command¹⁴; but that highly spirited descendant of the ancient natives of the town, having satisfactorily refuted the accusation, he was reinstated, and afterwards continued in that honourable station during the existence of the corps. They were several times reviewed, with the volunteers of the county, in Galway, Tuam, and Loughrea, by the earls of Clanricarde, and Altamont and the celebrated Henry Flood, successively reviewing generals; and, after preserving the public peace, obeying all the constitutional commands of government, and, at the same time, co-operating in the grand and successful objects of this immortal association, they peaceably laid down the arms which they had voluntarily taken up, and again resumed their station, with honour and applause, amongst their fellow-citizens in society.

For some years after this period, nothing worthy of observation occurred. No commercial exertions were made,¹⁵ nor were any improvements undertaken. A system of parliamentary electioneering seemed alone to have occupied the public mind; and, although the year 1783 and 1790 became memorable for contested elections both for the town and county,¹⁶ very little appears to have been done to benefit either. The forlorn situation of Galway about this time may be ascertained from a well known melancholy fact, that, until the Catholic bill of 1793, grass frequently grew in many of its public streets! From that period, however, the inhabitants began to exert themselves: the limits of the town were soon extended beyond the walls, and several buildings were erected in the east and west

with a test that the aforesaid articles are Irish. If any in our port should, contrary to these resolutions, import, or any retailer in our town buy in any other port, English goods, and pass them for Irish, on conviction, we will publish his or their names in the public papers, that the world may know the traitors to their country, and be guarded from dealing with them for the future. We hope the different manufacturers all over the kingdom will co-operate with the good wishes of the nation in their favour, by not raising the price of their goods beyond their real value.—Orig. MS.

14. History of the Irish Volunteers, page 69.

15. From 1787 to 1794, there were registered as belonging to the port of Galway, seventy-four vessels (all British built except one prize of forty-seven tons which was made free) for fishing, coast and foreign trade containing two thousand five hundred and eighty-five tons, and two hundred and seventy-six seamen.—This registry, which was far exceeded, within the

same period, by some of the most considerable sea-ports in the kingdom, proves at once the ruined state of the trade of this once commercial town.

16 On the 18th August, 1783, an election for two knights of the shire, to represent the county of Galway in parliament, commenced in the town. The candidates were, Denis Daly of Dunsandle William Power Keating Trench of Garbally, Edmund Kirwan of Dalgin, and Richard Martin of Dangan, esqrs. and, after a contest of fifty-two days, the two former were declared duly elected. A similar election commenced on 3rd May, 1790. The candidates were, William Power Keating Trench, Joseph Henry Blake of Ardfry, (afterwards lord Wallscourt,) and Anthony Daly of Callow, esqrs. and, after a contest of thirty-two days, the two former were declared duly elected. The town election commenced on the 15th May. The Rt. Hon. Denis Daly, Sir Skeffington Smyth and Richard Martin, esqr. were the candidates; and, after a poll of four days, the two former were returned.

suburbs. The year 1794 was rendered remarkable for the arrival of the home-ward bound East India fleet. This noble squadron riding at anchor in the bay, and combining with the surrounding scenery, presented a grand and most picturesque appearance, and reminded many old persons, then living, of what they had heard in their youth, concerning the former trade and concourse of shipping to the town.¹⁷ During the troubles which afterwards disturbed the kingdom, the inhabitants of Galway were conspicuous for their peaceable demeanour and unshaken loyalty; not an individual suffered for rebellious proceedings; and to their credit be it recorded, that, though their principles were devoted to the constitution of the country, they were free from the vile spirit of political and religious prejudice so prevalent in other parts of the kingdom. The readiness with which the ranks of the militia and the yeomanry corps of volunteers were filled up, afforded convincing proof of the principles of the Catholic inhabitants of Galway.¹⁸ On the landing of the French at Killala, in August, 1798, the gallant and humane general (afterwards lord) Hutchinson commanded in the town; and being, at the time, entirely destitute of resources to enable him to march against the enemy, the merchants, in the space of an hour, made up a sum of fifteen hundred guineas, which they presented him, and by which he was enabled to join general Lake, with the troops under his command to meet the enemy. The town yeomanry also joined their forces, and had their share of the disgraceful defeat at Castlebar. During their absence the town was left without military protection, and the Catholic clergy were indefatigable in their exertions to preserve the public peace. On this occasion, one of the regulars of St. Augustine presented a novel spectacle—a friar standing sentinel on the west bridge, to prevent the entrance of disaffected persons to a place where, within the memory of many then living, he would himself have been doomed to transportation or death for daring to appear or return: thus affording a striking example of the mutability of

17 De Burgo, who wrote about the year 1753, relates, that he had heard from persons of credit, then living, that they had seen eighty merchant vessels at once in the bay of Galway; but that in his time there were scarcely three or four.—Hib. Dom. Page 323.

18 The commissions for all the yeomanry officers of Ireland were signed on the 31st October, 1796. Those of Galway were—

Galway Volunteers.

Cavalry.

First Troop.

Capt. Marcus Blake Lynch.

First-Lieut. Robert Martin.

Second-Lieutenant Richard Butler.

Second Troop.

Ottiwell Puxley.

Ulick O'Brien.

Andrew Burke.

Infantry.

Grenadier Company.

Captain Nicholas Power Trench.

First Battalion Company.

Edmund Fitzpatrick.

First Lieutenant Dominick Daily.

Second Lieutenant J. Burke.

Bowes Egan.

Samuel Hanley.

Second Battalion Company.

Capt. Mark Lynch.

First-Lieut. Thos. Browne.

Second-Lieut. Val. Blake.

Light Infantry Company.

John Francis Hutchinson.

Henry Blake.

Richard French.

Fusilier Company.

Captain, Francis Blake.

First Lieut. Val. Blake.

Second Lieut. James Browne.

human opinion, and of the happy change that had taken place in the public mind during that period. The question of legislative union between the two countries soon after began to agitate the kingdom; and the promises made by Mr. Pitt and lord Cornwallis, to the Catholics of Ireland, secured many of the inhabitants of Galway in its favor. An address was accordingly voted by them in February, 1799, in which the necessity of that measure was maintained with remarkable energy of expression. In the constitution of the empire, as it at present stands," say they, "we discover the seeds of party animosity and national jealousy: A Protestant parliament and Catholic people! hence religious dissension and civil discord: Two legislators in the same empire! hence legal prejudices and commercial rivalry. By the settlement of 1782, the Irish parliament acquired the right of independent legislation—a right equally— unsafe to exercise and not to exercise. To exercise it would have been to endanger the unanimity, and thereby to hazard the division, of the empire; while, by declining to exercise the right, the Irish parliament brought upon itself the imputation of abject submission to the British legislature. This imputation begot contempt, that contempt discontent, and that discontent rebellion. For this radical defect in the polity of the empire we can see but one remedy, and that remedy is an union." Though the earliest and most successful efforts were made in its favour by the earl of Clanricarde, the archbishop of Tuam, and others in the county of Galway, it was, notwithstanding, the first part of Ireland that was proclaimed to be in a state of disturbance; and as several persons openly asserted that such a measure was totally unnecessary at the time, they consequently concluded that it was resorted to for no other purpose than that of carrying the question of union by military coercion. However that may be, it is certain that the good people of Galway have been disappointed in their reliance on ministerial promises, and that, were the question to be agitated again, many of them would think and act in a very different manner on the occasion.

Soon after the commencement of the present century the principal part of the town walls was prostrated, and several extensive stores and timber-yards were erected and laid out on their ruins.¹⁹ The buildings in the east and west suburbs, at Dominick-street, Newtown-Smith and Meyrick-square, were still carried on, and all within the walls got the name of the old town

¹⁹ The old fortifications of Galway have been recently contended for in the courts of law, as often as they formerly were at the mouth of the cannon. They are claimed on one hand by the representatives of alderman Eyre, who, in 1670, (Vide note, page 145 ante.) obtained a lease from the corporation, which was afterwards renewed on 19th May, 1712, and on the other by his majesty's board of ordnance, in right of the crown. This board accordingly, on 9th July, 1792, granted a lease of the town walls and surrounding fosse, sixty-three feet wide, to James Skerrett for one hundred years, at 20l. yearly rent, under which several thousand pounds have been, since 1800, expended in valuable improvements. But although the question has been often legally discussed, it still remains undetermined—a circumstance which has, in some degree, proved injurious to the town by deterring individuals from erecting buildings on those extensive concerns.

to distinguish it from these new improvements. The return of the inhabitants of the town and liberties, under the census act of 1812, amounted only to twenty-four thousand four hundred and eighty-four; but those to whom the enumeration was entrusted were, according to their own subsequent accusations of each other, guilty of gross neglect and omission in the execution of that duty. The general and most probable opinion is, that the population amounts at present to about forty thousand,²⁰ which comprehends a vast number of daily increasing poor, without trade, manufactures, or adequate employment. The consideration of this growing evil, combined with other local wants and inconveniences, at length induced many of the inhabitants to attribute the entire to neglect and inattention to the interests of the town, by its parliamentary representatives; and it was finally concluded, that if it had been represented by members acquainted with its situation or solicitous for its welfare, these increasing evils would have been prevented, and many measures might have been adopted for its benefit. While these feelings were yet alive in the minds of the principal inhabitants, it happened, rather opportunely, that a vacancy occurred in the representation of the town. The sheriffs, without anticipating any resistance, proceeded, according to the usual formality of election, to return the Hon. Frederick Ponsonby, the nominee of Mr. Daly, but they were warmly opposed by colonel Richard Martin, John French Madden²¹ and Richard Maunsell, esqrs. who formally rotested against the illegality of the proceeding, as being held without due notice. Their objections, however, were over-ruled, and the member was declared duly returned. These gentlemen then took the opportunity of addressing the town's-people, who had assembled merely from curiosity: they informed them, that the repetition of what they had that day witnessed had occasioned all the wretchedness of poverty, all the immorality and vice, by which they were on every side surrounded: that, although they appeared unconscious to the fact, this was the real and sole cause of all their distress: hence it was, that their prisons were crowded with debtors and malefactors, their quays left without shipping, their store-houses empty, their poor without employment; and, in fine, that the town itself had be-

²⁰ Before the destruction caused by the civil wars, in the seventeenth century, the population of Galway was esteemed the most considerable of any town or city in the kingdom, except Dublin. At the commencement of the last century it was reduced to less than one-half. In 1762, it amounted to fourteen thousand (Vide p. 183.) In 1788, Mr. Bushe, in his essay, returned the houses of the town at nine hundred and forty-seven; in 1792, at one thousand two hundred and twelve; but it now appears that both were below the number. In the imperfect return of 1812, they were set down at three thousand three hundred and fifty-three, which, considering the dense population of the place, ought to furnish many more inhabitants than were then returned. In 1814, they were sta-

ted, before a committee of the house of commons, at fifty thousand, but this was considered as an exaggeration. The opinion, therefore, which seems to approach nearest to the truth is that above stated.

²¹ This gentleman originated, and afterwards, by his speeches and writings, strenuously supported, the opposition against Mr. Daly, in the prosecution of which he appears to have expended upwards of 1000*l.* of his private property, and applied much time and considerable talent to ensure its success. However, therefore, the question may terminate Mr. French Madden merits the warmest gratitude of the inhabitants of Galway, for his long continued exertions to promote every measure connected with the interest of the town.

come almost proverbial for uncleanness and inconvenience, without either trade, manufactories, or business of any description. They further stated, that all those evils were perpetuated to elevate an individual who was unacquainted with the town and its interests, and a stranger to the inhabitants, and that, consequently, they were virtually unrepresented in the great council of the empire; and they finally concluded by reminding their auditory of the necessity of adopting some speedy and effectual measures to prevent the future recurrence of similar proceedings.

Although, from the preceding view of former events in Galway, it is manifest that the cause of its present decayed state was very different from that assigned by these gentlemen, yet their discourses had all, and perhaps the only effect which the speakers intended. The subject became, for the first time, a matter of discussion amongst all ranks; it was kept alive by occasional appeals from the press: public meetings were held, and speeches delivered, in which the right to nominate representatives without the concurrence of the people, to rule the corporation, appoint its officers, and dispose of all places of trust and emolument in the town, were freely canvassed. The source of this control was traced to the influence maintained by means of non-resident freemen, (of whom the corporation had been for many years principally composed,) to counteract which, the inhabitants were called upon to register their freeholds. Subscriptions were then entered into, and every preparation was made to contest the approaching election after the then ensuing dissolution of parliament.

While these efforts were making to weaken the influence of Mr. James Daly in Galway, he and his numerous friends, both in the town and county, made every exertion to defeat the objects of his opponents. Of the exaggerated evils, before enumerated, they denied the existence; or even admitting that, in so large and unemployed a population as that of Galway, some of those grievances were to be found, they could not be attributed to the corporation, or to the parliamentary representatives of the town, but were occasioned by the decay of public spirit in the merchants and wealthy inhabitants and by the habitual idleness and want of industry so prevalent and conspicuous amongst the lower orders. The town's-people were reminded, that the right of Mr. Daly was sanctioned and strengthened by the legal exercise of the corporate privileges for more than half a century, with the continued approbation of government, which, it was not to be supposed, would countenance any measures contrary or injurious to the general interests of the country: they were also reminded of the many benefits conferred on them by his ancestors, who had not only originally succeeded in rescuing the town from the tyranny and bigotry of the former corporation, but had afterwards invariably exerted themselves in its favor; that these circumstances ought to have called forth the gratitude of the community for their descendant, who was himself pursuing the same line of honourable conduct, or at least have prevented a combination which was set on foot by a few ambitious or intermeddling individuals, for the purpose of depriving him of his legal rights, and of those advantages to which he was for so many years entitled. These and many other arguments urged against

the "Independents," as they were now denominated, had considerable weight with numbers of the most respectable of the inhabitants, many of whom at length resolved to support Mr. Daly. Many others, including the more moderate of his opposers, admitted that the representation of the town and the enjoyment of the corporate privileges could never, as the place was then circumstanced, continue general or popular, but would, in process of time, inevitably fall into the hands of some more politic individual: they, therefore, unanimously declared, that if Mr. Daly had paid more attention to the common interests of the place, had resided amongst them even for a portion of his time, or applied some part of the revenues of the town to promote the public convenience, to pave and light the streets, and to establish some form of municipal police, or any regulation to preserve peace and order amongst the people, they would, from the hereditary attachment which they had all along borne to his family, cheerfully support him to the last extremity. If, at this juncture, advantage had been taken of those feelings, there can be no doubt but that much, if not the entire, of the proceedings which afterwards followed would have been prevented; but Mr. Daly, irritated at the opposition, chose rather to rely on his legal rights, and the result proved that he was not entirely mistaken.

The long wished for dissolution of parliament having at length taken place in 1812, Mr. Valentine Blake, of Menlo, was prevailed upon to offer himself as the popular candidate for the town: Mr. Ponsonby, the late member, was again put in nomination, and, after a severe contest, was declared duly elected. A petition was then presented against his return, and, after several proceedings before a committee of the house of commons, his election was pronounced void, and Mr. Blake was declared duly elected. This success occasioned the greatest rejoicings in the town; but the committee having also determined the right of election to be in the freeholders and freemen, the great question of non-residence still remained undecided. To determine this important point, on which the entire business now depended, proceedings were instituted in the king's bench. In the meantime the exertions of Mr. Blake and the Independents were uninterrupted, and their endeavours were again crowned with success. On the election which took place after the dissolution of parliament in 1818, that gentleman (whose conduct in the senate and attention to the interests of the town met with the warmest approbation of his constituents,) was declared duly elected by a considerable majority over Mr. Prendergast, the friend and nominee of Mr. Daly. This second victory, by which the independent cause seemed to be finally and firmly established, caused universal joy. Public dinners were given to signalize the event, and the triumphal procession of the victorious and popular candidate through the town was the most splendid ever before witnessed in this part of Ireland.²² These feelings, however, were soon

²² The following account of this procession is taken from the public prints of the day.—Mr. Blake, "the choice of the people," had a majority of one hundred and eighty-nine by the sheriff's books. On the 15th July the respective guilds of the corporation assembled at Newtown-Smith, and the procession commenced in the following order: A flag, bearing the inscription, "See the conquering hero comes;" a fisherman with a flag, motto, "A long pull, a strong pull,

after considerably depressed by the decision of the judges in favour of the non-resident freemen of the corporation. This decision, so favourable to the rights of Mr. Daly, and so contrary to the expectations and wishes of the Independents, again renders it doubtful to which side victory may ultimately incline: the next vacancy or dissolution of parliament will, however, determine that point; and, in the mean time, Mr. Daly remains in the full exercise and enjoyment of all the rights and privileges of the corporation.

Having now fulfilled our intention of tracing, through a great variety of facts and documents, the history of this town, from its origin to the present time: having beheld it, as it were, in a state of infancy, protected by the fostering hand of the powerful family of De Burgo; then, arrived at full maturity, and impatiently rejecting the rule of its former protectors; again, in a more advanced period, increasing in power, flourishing in wealth, and crowned with honour and prosperity; and, finally, through fatal reverses of affairs, languishing, as at the present period, in a state of neglect and decay; our narrative shall here be closed; not however, without expressing a final hope, that whoever shall possess the confidence, may never forget the interest, of the town: that he or they may direct the attention of the rulers of the country to a place which, though now so reduced had been formerly so considerable; and which, if its foreign trade and home manufactories were at all promoted or encouraged, would prove of incalculable benefit to this neglected, unimproved, and consequently unproductive, quarter of Ireland. The promoter of measures, such as these, by diffusing innumerable blessings amongst the community, and augmenting the resources and revenues of the country, would enjoy those exalted feelings which accumulated wealth or elevation of rank cannot always bestow: he would, moreover, command the grateful suffrages of the present, and secure the lasting praises of future generations, and be deservedly ranked amongst the benefactors of mankind.

and a pull altogether," followed by three hundred of his profession.

The different guilds or companies, whose right to the corporation was established, each bearing a flag with an appropriate device and inscription.

A boat, emblematic of the Galway arms, covered with blue and pink tastefully decorated with wreaths of flowers, and placed on the carriage of a chaise, drawn by horses, in which was seated a military band, playing appropriate tunes during the procession.

Four gentlemen carrying white wands and banners; motto, "Blake and Independence."

Four more; motto "Galway shall flourish."

Four ditto; — "Our charter and our rights."

Four ditto; motto, "The glorious majority of 189."

The splendid chair in which the representative sat, crowned with a wreath, composed of oak and laurel leaves and flowers,

under a triumphal canopy, beautifully decorated, surrounded by several of his friends.

Four gentlemen bearing white wands and banners; motto "Unanimity."

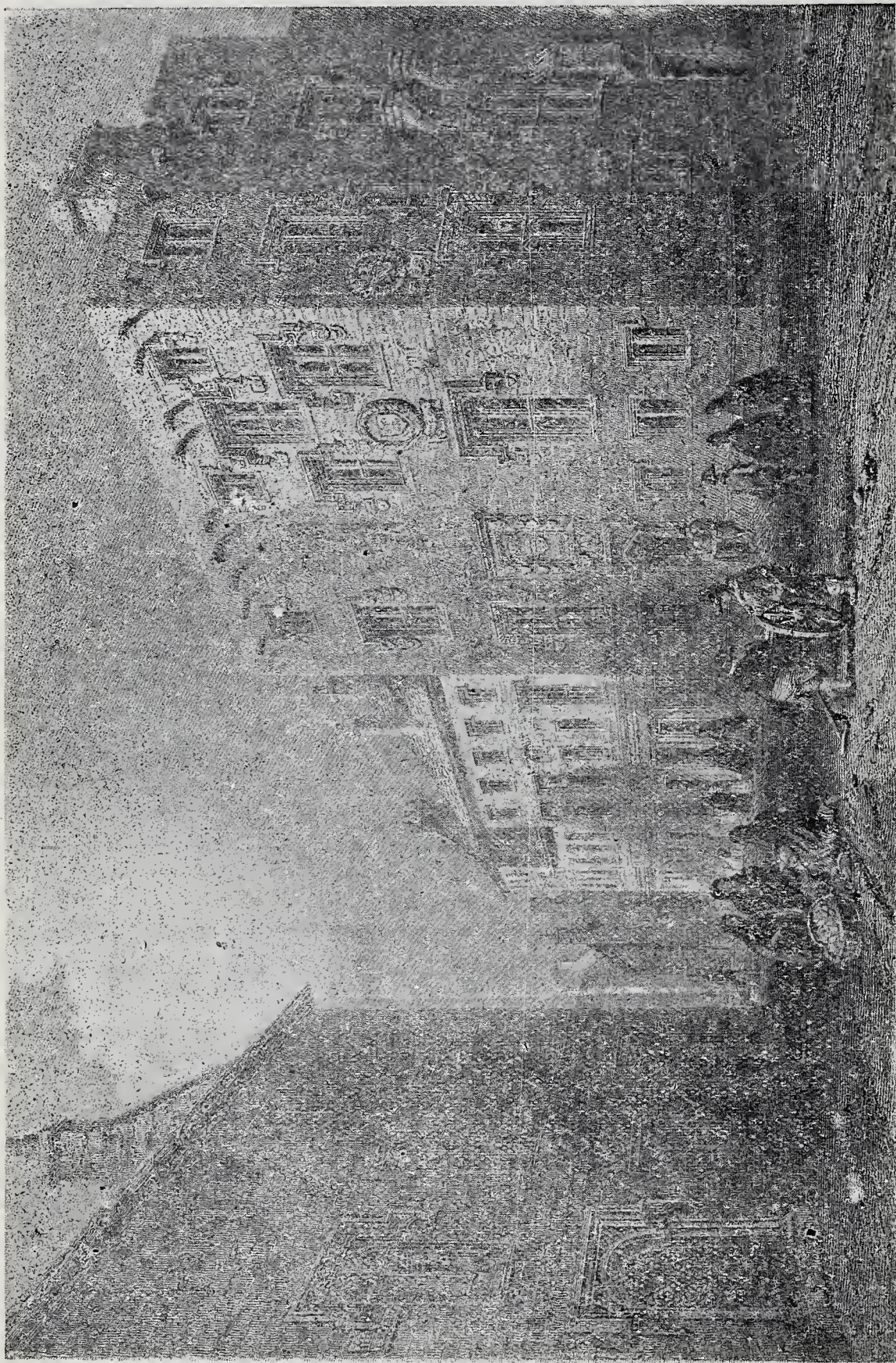
Four more; motto, "The man of our choice."

Four ditto; — "Purity of election."

Four ditto; — "No non-residents."

Freemen and freeholders walking six and six, to the number of four hundred, all decorated with oak and laurel leaves.

The procession, thus arranged, proceeded, amidst the most triumphant plaudits of the populace, through the principal streets of the town, greeting, in their progress, the several families favourable to their cause, and ended at Meyrick-square. The greatest unanimity prevailed, and, although upwards of twenty thousand people were assembled, not a single accident occurred. The town was brilliantly illuminated in the evening, and every possible demonstration of joy was evinced on the occasion.



LYNCH'S CASTLE, GALWAY. Residence of the Mayor in 1654.



THE
HISTORY
OF
GALWAY.

PART II.

MAGISTRATES AND CORPORATE OFFICERS, VIZ. PROVOSTS, PORTREVES, SOVEREIGNS, MAYORS, BAILIFFS, SHERIFFS, RECORDERS, TOWN CLERKS, ETC.¹ SINCE 1274, WITH SEVERAL CURIOUS BY-LAWS, AND A LIST OF THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TOWN.

THE earliest magistrates of Galway of whom any account remains extant, were *provosts* or *portroves*, (called also *bailiffs* or *seneschals*,) appointed by the earls of Ulster, and the family of De Burgo, until 1396. These were succeeded by *sovereigns* and *provosts*, elected under the charter of Richard II. until 1485, when a *mayor* and *bailiffs* were created, (the latter being changed into *sheriffs*, by the charter of James I. in 1610). Of the magistrates for the two preceding periods no list now remains, the old corporation

1. The original armorial bearings and corporate seal of Galway were the arms of the De Burgo family, and the earls of Ulster, "Or a cross gules," which were continued until about 1368, when, upon the intermarriage of Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, with Philippa, daughter and sole heiress of Lionel, duke of Clarence, and earl of Ulster, (by Elizabeth his wife, sole daughter and heiress of William De Burgo, earl of Ulster,) the arms of both these noble families were quartered and assumed by the town. (See also p. 61, note 34, where for Mortimer read second and third, and for De Burgo first and fourth.) In 1396, when the town was entirely surrounded by walls, and that other fortifications were erected, the corporation took for arms, "Azure, a chevron, or, between three castles, triple towered and masoned, argent;" but when commerce increased, these were again succeeded by the antique galley as above, which was the general form of merchant ships after the reign of Richard II.—See Strutt's Antiquities.—These arms, which continue to the present day, are—"Argent, an antique galley with one mast, the sail furled, floating in waves of the sea, proper; on the centre point, in an escutcheon, the arms of England."

books and records being lost. The few names, therefore, which follow were collected from ancient documents, but are by no means to be considered as perfect. So far, however, as they extend, they are accurate. From the year 1484 to the present time, the list of mayors, bailiffs and sheriffs is complete. Several curious Bye-laws, enacted since that time by the corporation, have been extracted by the author from their books of records, (particularly the old volume, Lib. A.) and the orthography, which is remarkable for bordering, in many instances, on that of the Irish language, (from the indiscriminate use of English and Irish by the inhabitants) is, for its singularity, preserved.

Provosts, Portreves and Sovereigns.

- 1274. Thomas De Lince, *provost*.
- 1290. Richard Blake, alias Caddell, *bailiff or portreve*.
- 1353. Stephen Penrise, *provost*.²
- 1378. Richard Scared, alias Scaret, *provost*.
- 1414. Walter Skeret, *provost*.
- 1417. The same, *provost*.
- 1434. Edmund Lynche, *sovereign*.
- 1444. The same, *sovereign*.
- 1448. William Allen, alias Den, *provost*, died.
- 1460. William Dubh Lynche Fitz-James, *sovereign*.
- 1461. James Develin, *sovereign*.
- 1462. William Oge Allen, alias Den, *sovereign*.
- 1476. Thomas Lynche, *sovereign*.
- . John Skeret, *provost*.
- 1484. William Lynche, *sovereign*.
- 1485. The same, *last sovereign*.
- John Lynche Fitz-Edmund, *last provost*.

Mayors, Bailiffs and Sheriffs.

Mayors.

- 1485. Pyerse Lynche.

Bailiffs.

- Andrew Lynche Fitz-Stevne.
- Jhamis Lynche Fitz-Martin.
- 1486. Domynick Lynche Fitz-John. Richard Mares.
- Geffre Blake.

By-laws enacted by the Corporation.

1486.

That no man of this corporation be served with any writ or process until the matter be first tried by the mayor and council of the town, *sub poena* 20l.⁴

2. This provost was afterwards bailiff and collector of the new customs; he died in 1383.

3. This sovereign died in 1476; William, his son, who was sovereign for many years, died in 1492.

4 On 2d June, 1564, Nicholas Blake was

fined 40l. for issuing the queen's writ against the warden and Richard Joyce, a "young man," his farmer, "without first suing them before the mayor and council according to ancient custom."—Corp. Book, A.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1487. William Lynche Fitz-Saunder.	No bailiffs appear to have been elected from 1486 to 1496.
1488. Geffere Lynche.	
1489. John Lynche Fitz-John.	
1490. Robuock Lynche.	
1491. John Skeret.	
1492. Thomas Lynche Fitz-Edmond.	
1493. Jhamis Lynche Fitz-Stevne.	
1494. John Lynche Fitz-Edmond.	
1495. Thomas Blake.	
1496. Walter Lynche Fitz-Robert.	Wallintyn Blake. Thomas Bodkin.
1497. Domyrick Lynche Fitz-John.	Walter Lynche. Olyver Lynche.
1498. Andrewe Lynche.	Peter Martin. Martin Font.
1499. Jhamys Lynche Fitz-Martin.	Peter French. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Jamis.
1500. Geffere Lynche.	Jamys Lynche. Nicholas French.
1501. Robouck Lynche.	David Kyrvan. John Mares.
1502. John Lynche Fitz-John.	Patrick Lynche. Walter Lynche.
1503. Edmond Dene.	Cornell Fallon. William Kyrvan.
1504. Walter Lynch Fitz-Thomas.	John Bodkin. William Martin.

By-laws.

1496.

That every inhabitant shall have such reasonable weapon according to his calling, *sub poena* 12d.

1500.

Richard Begge made free, on condition of his keeping a comon house or yune (inn) for victualling and lodging strangers: and at the request of Andrewe Fallon, on behalf of his daughter Julian Fallon, who is married to Donell Oge O'Vollaghon, (O'Nolan) of this towne, goldsmith, and for the better relief of said Andrewe, who is old and impotent, the said Donnell made free, on condition of maintaining him.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1505. Stephen Lynch Fitz-Dominick	Edmond Athy. Robert Lynch Fitz-Martin.
1506. Thomas Bodikin.	Richard Deane. Laynard Lynch.
1507. Artur Lynch. ⁵	William Josse. Antony Lynch.
1508. Steven Lynch Fitz-Dominick.	Richard Lynche. William Maryse.
1509. Steven Lynch Fitz-Jamys. ⁶	Edmond French. Adam Faunt.
1510. Jhamys Lynch Fitz-Stevn.	William Kyrvan. Vallyntin French.
1511. Jhamys Lynch Fitz-Geffre.	Stevn French. Nich. Fitz-Arthur Lynch.
1512. Jhamys Lynch Fitz-Martin.	Wyllam Athy. Laurence Bodkin.

By-laws.

1505.

If any outlandish man or enemy of the inhabitants shall take any of them for any discord or words between any brother or neighbour of Galway, so that one neighbour procure for evil will to his neighbour, so be taken as aforesaid; that then he which procureth such taking shall ransom and restore again that person, rendering to him all his loss and damadges, and the remainder of the goods to the prince and officers for the time being.

That no householder be an hostler, nor no mayntayner of the common horsse, or harlots, on payn of 6s. 8d.

1507.

That no boucher take no *cnaye-goulle* nor *skeingh-glac* out of no cow that he selleth.

1508.

That whatsoever man, woman or childe, be found foullinge the streets or walls, either by night or day, to lose 2d. Alsoe, every dweller shall make clean before his door once a week, and that no dung heaps be made on the streets, sub poena 12d.

1509.

Whatsoever man or woman have any kyne in towne shall keep them in their houses both summer and winter, and if they be found on the streets to pay 4d. and no swine or goat to be kept in towne above fourteen days, on payn of killing.

1510.

That every couper shall give towe tounne hopis for a penye, thre pipe hopis for a penye, thre hogshedds and barrell hopis for a penye. That the shore men, or cottoners, shall give fyve baunlac, six, seven baunlac of frise for towe pence, eight baunlac, nyne baunlac, ten baunlac for thre pence, and a shore mantill for 10d. sub poena 12d.

1511.

That all idle men and women not able to pay watch tax ne talladge be expelled the town: that the fishers of the lough shall bring into the market thre daies in the wicke, and to give an hundred eeles for 2d.

That no butter be sold above one penye a pound, and no dearer, on payn to lose 12d. and his body to be put in prison that doth the contrary.

5. This mayor fell over the West bridge, 6. The church of St. James, at New on the 25th of November, in this year, castle, was built by this mayor.—Id. and was drowned.—Annals.

Mayors.

Bailiffs.

1513. Walter Lynch Fitz-Thomas.	Jonock Kyrvan. Jamys Skeret.
1514. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Walter.	Robert Lynch Fitz-John. Edmond Athy.
1515. Jhamys Lynch Fitz-Stevn.	John Lynch Fitz-Dominick John Maris.
1516. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Jamys.	Gabriel Lynch. Thomas Kyrvan.
1517. Stevne Lynch-Fitz-Dominick.	John Lynch Fitz-Andrew Martyn Lynch Fitz-John.
1518. John Bodikin.	Domnick Deane. Martin Lynch Fitz-Jamys.

By-laws.

1513.

That no honey be brought to towne except it be good and merchantable; and that no dweller shall become surety for any gent of the country, nay ransom none of them.

1514.

That none of the towne buy cattle out of the country, but only of true men.

That the mayor, warden and bailiffs shall be first served with all provisions at market, and then who first comes is first served.

1516.

That no man of the town shall lend or sell galley, botte or barque, to an Irishman.

1517.

That no person shall give ne sell to no Irish man munition, as hand povins, ealivres, poulder, lead nor sall peter, nor yet longe boves, cross boves, cross-bove stringes, nor yearne to make the same, nor no kind of weapon, on payn to forfayt the same and an hundred shillings.

That every shippe, that comith a fishing within the havin of Galwey, shall pay half tethes to the colladge of all such fish as they shall take within the said havin yf they take fire, watter and service within the said town or havin. Also, that every tope man paye 40s. and every small man 20s. and 4lb. of gounpoulder to the towne and corporation.

1518.

If any man should bring any Irishman to brage or loste upon the towne, to forfeit 12d.

That no man of this town shall oste or receive into ther houses at Christemas, Easter nor no feaste elles, any of the Burks, McWilliams, the Kellies, nor no cepte elles, withoute license of the mayor and councill, on payn to forfeit 5l. that neither O' ne Mac shall strutte ne swaggere thro' the streets of Gallway.⁷

That no freeman quit the town without license from the mayor, sub poena 20s.

7. This law was principally directed against the O'Kellies, O'Hallorans, Maenamaras, and the O'Flaherties, O'Conors, the Mac Williams of Clanrickard.

Mayors.

Bailiffs.

1519. Wylliam Martin.

Bartholome Faunt.
Richard Martin.

1520. Martin Faunt.

Richarde Blake.
Olyver French.

1521. Anthonye Lynch.

Artor Lynch.
Wyllick Lynch.1522. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Domnick. John French.
John Fallon.

by laws.

1519.

That if any man, fre or imfre, be founde by nighte time in any man's housse, to give coupillation, or to do with the good man's servant mayd or daughter, by way of advoutrey, to less 20s. and also to the good man, in whos housse the same person is found with the said facte or cryme, to lesse to that good man 20s. and he that begetteth a fremanor merchaund's daughter with child shall marry her, or give her a sufficient portion towards her preferment until another man.

That no Irish judge or lawiro shall plede in no man's cause or matter within this towne or courte, for it agreeth not with the king's laws, nay yet the emprors in many placis.8.

1520.

That no preste, moncke ne shanon (canon) nor frer shall have no w—e ne lemon in any man's heusse within this towne and that man which keepeth or hosteth the said w—e or lemon to forfait 20s.

1521.

That no man shall build, make, or repayre any strawe or tache house for féare of fyre, no nigher the towne walles then fourteen feet unless they be covered with sklatts, and that to be the heads of the stretts, as to say, the both sides of the great gato and both sides of the new towre and both sides of the littell gates, except both the great stone housses, as Martin and John Lynch is housses and also as John Cayre ys house to be excepted, yf they cover the same with sklatts.

1522.

That no man of this towne shall syll ne land to no outelandish man, no kinde of armour as shorte of maylle, ne skell ne harnes, un payn of 20s.

That no man be made fre unless he can speke the English tonge and shave his upper lipo weekly, sub poena 20s.9.

8. The native Irish (whose love of strict and impartial justice was celebrated even by their enemies) neither acknowledged nor obeyed any other than the Brehon laws, to the reign of James I. Until then the English laws were in force only within the Pale, which consisted of the counties of Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Louth, and within the cities of Dublin, Cork, Waterford, Limerick, Galway, and a few other places.

9. Until about the beginning of the 18th century the Irish wore the glibb or long flowing hair, and also the crombeal or beard on the upper lip.—O'Halloran.—That the old English inhabitants of the marches adopted this Irish custom, appears by an act made in a parliament held at Trim in 1446, by which as a mark of distinction between the English and Irish, the wearing the beard on the upper lip alone was prohibited under a heavy penalty. Ware, chap 9.

The costume of the Irish, when the above by-law was made, may be ascertained from an act of parliament in 1537, whereby it was, amongst other things, enacted, that no subject should be shorn or shaved above his ears, or wear glibbs or crombeals (i.e. hair on the upper lip) or linen dyed in saffron, or above seven yards of linen in their shifts, and that no woman wear any kirtle or tucked up or embroydered or garnished with silk or couched, ne laid with usker, after the Irish fashion, and that no person wear mantles, coats or hoods after the Irish fashion, (except women, herdes, horse-boys, and soldiers at the rising-out hostings, and journeys on rode, all which might wear mantles,) and that everybody shall endeavour to learn the English language and conform to the English fashion, etc.—Ir. Statutes, Vol. I. p. 121.—See also note, pa. 83, ante.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1523. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Jhamys.	Thomas Kyrvan. Peter Lynch.
1524. Adam Faunt.	Ambrose Lynch. Richard Faunt.
1525. William Martin.	Walter Lynch Fitz-John. Henry Jose.
1526. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Jamys.	Marcus French. Thomas Blake.
1527. Wyllame Maries.	Richard Bodikin. Thos. Lynch Fitz-Stevne.
1528. John Lynch Fitz-Andrew.	Richard Kirvane. Jhonockyne Lynch.
1529. Richard Gare Lynch. ¹⁰	Edmond Lynch. Francis Blake.
1530. Jhonock Kirvane.	Marcus Lynch. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Arthur.
1531. Jhamis Skerret.	Walter Skerret. John Lynch Fitz-John.
1532. Antonye Lynch.	Marcus Lynch. Johneck Lynch Fitz-Stevn
1533. Richard Blake.	Anthony Blake. Thomas Martin.
1534. Thomas Kyrvane.	Christ. Lynch Fitz-Stevne. William Lynch.
1535. Richard Martine.	Dominick Lynch. George Skerret.

By-laws.

1526.

That no carpender nor mason shall not have for his hyre and wages but two pence naturalho every day, with meate and drink.

1527.

That whoever plays at choitts or stoines, but only to shoot in longe bowes, shorte cross bowes and hurling of darts or speres, to lesse at every time 8d.

1528.

That in what house, shope or seller ther be found players at cards, dyce, tabulls, nor no other unlawfull gamys for moneye, by younge men, and speciallee by prentisys nor Irishmen, on payn to lose the moneye they play for, and also where they play to pay 20s.

1529.

That whatsoever countryman shall spoyle robb or wounde any of the inhabitants of this town, either by lande or water, shall have no priviledge in no man's house within this towne, unless for debte.

1533.

Any inhabitant who should begin any strife, debate or quarrel or draw out sworde, dagger or knife, to pay 100s. the weapon to be naylled and put up in the pullorie.

10. This mayor, departing on a voyage, was accordingly practised for upwards of a fired a gun in the haven in honour of the century afterwards by his descendants town. His voyage proving prosperous, the and by all the sept of the Lynches.—An-circumstance was esteemed ominous, and nals.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1536. Richard Martine. ¹¹	Dominick Lynch. George Skerret.
1537. Martin Lynch Fitz-James.	Patrick Lynch. Nicholas Lynch.
1538. Jhone French.	Nichoals Blake. William Skerret.
1539. Arthur Lynch. ¹²	And. Lynch Fitz-Stephen. James Oge Lynch.
1540. Dominick Lynch Fitz-James	Ambrose Lynch. Geo. Lynch Fitz-Walter.
1541. Thos. Lynch Fitz-Stephen.	Peter French Fitz-Waden. Jhamis Kervicke.
1542. Henry Jose.	Edward French. Patrick French.

By-laws.

1536.

Whatsoever woman, of what degree she be, bearing childe, shall not make comon bancks and great expens as in tyme paste, but shall keap her acostomed beads during her pleasure, without any resorte of comon house haunters, save only her friends, such as she liste, on payn to forfeit 20s. and also whatever man or woman goeth into any such house, asking or seeking for meat and drinke, unptraide er bidden, to pay 6s. 8d.

That no man of Athenrye, although he boughte his freedome in thys towne, be fre, unless he keape house and fyre and pay tax and talladge, unless it be a young man having no house here or there.

1537.

That no person, under a penalty of 20s. shall send any meate or drinke to any that keepeth sanctuary in the abbays, easto or weste, fearing to come into the town to pay their debts.

1538.

That any person or merchant of this town that shall make any bargayn or contract in Spayne, Franch, or any other lands, for wyne, salt, yerne, or any other kind of wares, shall, afore he put the said shop or wares in booke or custome, fynde to the mayor and officers of this town sufficient and substantiall surties that he or they shall wel and truly contente and pay the stranger of his payment, for the discharge and credit of the town and inhabitauntz thereof.

1539.

That widows have a third parte of all such goods as were in the lawfull possession of their husbands, undisposed of before their deaths, and not otherwise.

Andrew Browne, of Athenry, admitted to the freedom of the town.¹³

1541.

That no sancturaye be allowed for debtors longer than twenty-four hours.

1542.

That no person of this town shall buy or sell with any merchaunts of Lymbricke, Corcke, Watterford, Dublin, or other towns or citties, for any goods, or cause same to be transported by land or sea, unless they come to this town as other strangers and merchants in ships, on payn of forfeiting the goods and 20l.

11. This mayor, entering the bay after a long voyage, likewise fired a gun near the little castle of Mutton-island which was long afterwards observed by his posterity.—Id.

12. This mayor died in office, and Arthur French Fitz-Geoffry was elected in his place.

13. This is the first mention of this name in the annals of the town.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1543. Jhonickin Lynch.	Edmond Kirvan.
	Edmond Bodikin.
1544. Edmund Lynch.	William Lynch.
	Thomas Lynch.
1545. Thomas Kervan.	Ambrose Lynch.
	Stephen Faunt.
1546. Stephen Lynch Fitz-Arture.	Jhamys Faunt.
	Walter Skerrett.
1547. Thomas Kyrvane.	Ambrose Lynch.
	Stevn Faunt.
1548. Dominick Lynch Fitz-John.	John Jose.
	Dominick French.
1549. Thomas Martin.	Givane Faunt.
	Jhamys French.
1550. Richard Kirvane.	Denyse Kirvane.
	David Bodkin.

By-laws.

1543.

Nicholas Coyne, or Quin, and his son Thomas Coine admitted freemen.¹⁴

1548.

That if any gentleman, by east or weste, apprehend any the town's adversaries, who doth spoil and robe the comene of the same of their provision and merchandiz, by land or sea, and sending that naughty person into this town to answer for such faults and crymes, that immediately there shall a queste pass on him, and if the queste condemn him to death, the mayor and officers shall forthwith put him to execution, under penalty of 20l.

1549.

For sundry and divers injuries and wrongs that the septs of Clan Donze, Clan McConchour, Clan Caleboy, the Hallorans, Slought-etaggard and Flareties, ther cheffe captayns, doth dayly to the inhabitants of this town, that when any of the said septs with their captayns be found in town, to be taken and rested until restitution be made for all hurts and damages as he or any of his sept doth to the inhabitants; and that the mayor nor officers shall not license nor pardon none of the said septs to come within this town, without license of those to whom they commit the trespassis, or owinge debts.

1550.

That the mayor, for the time being, shall have of the fishers of the lough or ryvere every fish day, betwixte Michaelmas and Hollontide, but two hundred small elles, and every of the bailiffs to have one hundred; and from Hollontide forth it is ordered that the mayor, for the furnishing his table with fresh fishe, shall have the election of two fishers, whom he liste, and every of the bailiffes to have in like a fisher to keep their house with fishe.

14. This family is very ancient in Galway. (See page 70, note ante, and account of the Franciscan Abbey.) Its present respectable representative, Peter Quin, resides at Pollough, near the town.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1551. John Oge Lynch.	John Lynch. Perse Lynch.
1552. Jhonock Lynch Fit-Stephen.	Andrew Browne. Robock Lynch.
1553. Patrick Lynch.	Anthony Frenche. Dominick Browne.
1554. Nicholas Lynch-Fitz-Stephen.	Henry Lynch. David Kyrvan.
1555. Nicholas Blake.	Peter French Fitz-John. Pierce Lynch Fitz-John.
1556. William Skerret.	John Blake Fitz-Robert. Martin French.
1557. Jhamis Oge Lynch.	Richard Lynche. Walter Lynche.
1558. Ambrose Lynch Fitz-Martin.	Dominick Lynch. Rich. Lynch Fitz-Patrick.
1559. George Lynch Fitz-William.	Peter Lynch. Roboke French.
1560. Stevne Lynch Fitz-Arthur.	Jhamis Lynch. Nich. French Fitz-Olyver.
1561. Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Stevne.	Nicholas Lynch. Martin Lynch.
1562. Thomas Blake.	Patrick Blake. Walter Blake.
1563. Thomas Oge Martin.	Jhamys Lynch Fitz-Artor. Patricke Martin.
1564. Nicholas Blake.	John Lynch Fitz-Thomas. John Fitz-Henry Blake.
1565. Peter Lynch Fitz-Vadyn.	Nicholas Lynch. Andrew Mares.
1566. Jhamis Kyrvicke.	William Martin. Richard Browne.
1567. Edmond Kyrvane.	Jhamys Lynch. Martin Kyrvan.
1568. Dominick Frenche.	Willicke Lynch. George Frenche.
1569. Givane Fante.	Gregory Bodkin. Valentine Frenche.
1570. Denys Kyrvane.	John Martyne. Ambrose Bodikin.

By-laws.

1553.

That the mayor and bailiffes do sustain four masons annually to work on the murage and pavage of the town.

1571. Roboucke Lynch.	Rolande Skerete.
1572. Johne Lynch.	Nich. Frenche Fitz-Vadien John Lynch Fitz-William. Marcus Lynch.
1573. Pierce Lynch Fitz-Olyver.	Charles Lynch Fitz-Ulick. Olyver Oge Frenche.
1574. Andrew Browne. ¹⁵	Anth. Linche FitzMarcus. Nich. Kyrwan Fitz-Denis.
1575. Dominick Browne.	James and Mich. Lynch. Fitz-Stephen Artor.
1576. Peter French Fitz-John.	Thomas Kerowan. Geo. French Fitz-Edward.
1577. Peyers Lynch.	John Blake. Francis Martin.
1578. John Blake Fitz-Richard.	Christopher Lynche. James Dorsey.
1579. Martin French.	Marc. Lynch Fitz-Stephen Richard Butler.
1580. Dominick Linche Fitz-John. ¹⁶	Thomas Lynch. John Skerret.

By-laws.

1575.

Mem. the 14th day of July, one Morchowe Mac Tirriligh Mac Donill, chief of his nacion, called Clanteige of Aron, appeared before the mayor, bailiffs and com-brethern, claiminge to have the ancient custom of Connowe and Meales due to him and to his ancestors within the town, to say, for two days and two nights, and the mayor, etc., calling before them auncient old credibel persons, they declared upon their oaths that they never heard of their parente, or saw the said sept have no more within this town but only two meales. It was thereupon ordered that said sept shall have no more but that two, they being always bound to serve, attend and wait upon us and in our service, as their auncestors hath bene; also the said sept is bound to give the accustomed Meals and Cannowe to all the comenc of Galway when they shall repair to the isles of Aron: and the mayor, etc. did grant and promise to be aydors, helpers, mayntainers and assisters of said Clanteige against all persons that would lay seige, spoille or raise the said islands or castell of Aron, or otherwise wrong the said Morchowe sept.¹⁷

1579.

The exportation of grown timber prohibited.

15. This mayor died in office, and James Kyrvicke, who was mayor in 1566, was elected in his place.

16. This mayor was distinguished for many public spirited acts. He assigned his mansion-house to the corporation to serve as a tholsel, in consideration of which he obtained, amongst other things, a grant of certain duties on all provisions sold within the town or exported.—(Vide p. 149. note n). He also founded a school at the place on the quay, called Can-abhalla, which was afterwards converted into a fortification.—Annals.

This year (1580) Conhubhar Mac-an-Righ, alias Connor King, an inhabitant of Arran, died at the extraordinary age of

two hundred and twenty years. "He remembered when there were but three stone houses, together with the abbey, the red earl's house and Athy's castle, in Galway; a small chapel where St. Nicholas's church stands, and another on the site of St. Mary's, in the west suburbs." It is also added, "that he killed a beef in his own house every Christmas, for one hundred and eighty years."—Id.

17. James Lynch Fitz-Ambrose, merchant, some time before this period, obtained a mortgage of the entire islands of Arran from the above chieftain. In June, 1575, it was agreed between them "that in case the said sept of Clanteige had deceased and perished the said mortgagee

Mayors.

1581. Peter Linche Fitz-Marcus.
 1582. Robooge French Fitz-John.
 1583. Nicholas French.
 1584. Nicholas Lynch.
 1585. James Linche Fitz-Arthur.

Bailiffs.

- Dominick Martin.
 Marcus Linche Fitz-Peter.
 Walter Joyce.
 Edmond French.
 Ant. Linche Fitz-Thomas.
 Ollipher Browne.
 Richard Martin.
 Jeffry Martin.
 Stephen Kirowan.
 Thomas Browne.

By-laws.

1580.

Many and sundry gredy, detestable and inordinate gains of living of interests or cambies, after the rate of a peck of wheat or a good hyd for the marke, by the yeare has been taken up by such as lent money, ordred that none be hereafter taken by such as are authorised by her majesty's laws.

1584.

Any inhabitant confortng, lodging or mayntayning in his house or otherwise, any bawdry or harlotts, shall forfeit every time 20s.

1585.

That no inhabitant henceforth pay any cess, tax or talledge, but according to his ability of goods and lands.

Articles touching reformacions in the commonwealth, presented the
 25th of February, 1585. Vide page 95.

That the young English tailours and ther boys be varagraunts, the most in the towne usinge all unlawful pleis and lacivious expences bothe by day and night, yea and withall pleinge ye w——e whose names partlie will hereafter insue.

That non be suffered to use any kynde of unlawful games or plays to disceive and make the people ydle, and shoun to erne ther lyving by good and lawfull means.

That no young man, prentiz or otherwise, shall weare no gorgious apparell, ne silks, either within or without ther garments, ne yet fyne knitt stockins either of silke or other costlie wise, weare no costlie long riffs thick and started, but be contented with single riffs, and that also they shall wear no pantwoffes, but rather be contented with showse.

That generallie all thartificers in towne do exact and take for their wourke far more than is allowed unto them by the assise of the towne, and besides that ther exaction of money, they exact and take acquavite, wyne, meate and drinke, bred, broth, fleash, candles and flaxe, with many other things.

should be their sole heir, and possess Aron Morowe, Conchor McMorchowe, Terrilagh and their whole lands." It was afterwards agreed "that if in case the said Meeagh, eige Mc. Terrilagh, Dermod Mc. Olanteige should decease and perish Morchowe, Teige Oge, and Conchor Mc. altogether, the whole commons and Moriortagh McBrene, gentlemen of all cooperation of Galway should be their Aron, and Dermod Mc. Cormock Mc. Conchors, of the castle of Trowmore, on 14th heirs, and possess the whole isles July, 1575, appointed captain Morchowe of Aron and all other their Mc. Terrilagh Mc. Donill their attorney lands, and that said sept should not for ransoming the isles of Aron from Jas. alienate or mortgage no part, ne parcell Linche, and agreed that all such parts as of Aron, to any person without their consent or licence."—It afterwards appears, and his heirs for ever.—Corp. Book, A.—however, that "Teige Eturgh, Morchowe Vide note 26, page 56, ante.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1586. William Martin.	Vallantine Blake.
	Marcus Linche.
1587. John Blake.	Walter Martin.
	Anthony Kirrivan.
1588. Andrew Mareis.	Patrick Kirowan.
	George Maries.
1589. Richard Browne.	Oliver Kirowan.
	P. French Fitz-Vallantin.
1590. James Linche Fitz-Ambrose.	John Martin Fitz-Patrick.
	W. French Fitz-Nicholas.

By-laws.

That all sellers of victuals do take of the people verie unreasonable gaincs, farr beyond that reasonable allowances allowed them by thassise of the towne, according to the rates ledd by the marchett.

That many in towne, and espetiallie noursses are ingrossers and incroachers of marchetts, and also they who are better and most provided, besides the marchett and have most store of corne, be the first that ingrosseth and incroacheth the marchett ther.

Great latches and slacknes in our watche and warde armour and weapon, and worst of all, a great waunt in this towne, viz. of powlder, matche and munition, whiche wo protest to be prevented as well by the governor of the reallme, as also by the corporation, so farr fourth as the powre corporations habylitie will reache, and that the same be provided in tyme, fearinge of any imminent danger.

That ne free of fishe, viz. of yles (eels) be taken by ne way whatsoever, begyn the 15th of Aprille to the springe following the same; and also that no red salmon be taken, nor crue of samon as in the statute in that behalfe is provided, Act-na-howly allways excepted, for that we found it so by antiquitie; and fearinge the distruction of the fish, to prevent the same, that no lymed hids or flax be suffered to be put into the ryver.

That all artificers, craftsmen and comon labourers, do take more than they should for ther hieire, bothe by the yeare, quarter, monethe and daye, far over thassise set downe by the corporation.

That the show-makers, glovers and skimmers of this towne, do not well tawne ther lether, ne yet utter the samo according to the marchett; and, to prevent the same, yt is good to establish and order that they make good stuff, and utter the same according to the marchett.

That the newe statut, made by the goldsmithes, concerning ther owne facultie or arte, is commendable, so as they shall observe the same, and mend their former faults.

That many merchaunts and handy-craftes men have relinquished their mansions in towne, and keape themselves in the countrie without answering tax and talladge, scott and lott within this towne, from tyme to tyme, as apereth by the names in Nicholas Linche, the town clerke, his booke; and, to prevent the same, it is good to establish that every of them do come to dwell in towne, or otherwise to order a fyne lesse ther libertie as aperteine.

That a more straighter order be taken to barr the making of aquavite of corne then heitherunto hath been used, for that the same is a consumation of all the provition of corne in the comon wealthe.

That no freeman within adge shall have no utteraunce in the trade of merchandize until he become aprentize to an housholder that shall pay tax and talladge, except onelie a man's heire.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1591. Ulick Linche Fitz-Edmond.	James Linche Fitz-Martin. Peter Blake.
1592. Valentyne French.	John Lynch. Geffrey French.
1593. John Martin.	Robuck Martin. Arthur Lynch Fitz-James.
1594. Ronalde Skerrett.	Pierce Linch Fitz-Johnneck Patrick Lynch Fitz-Ulick.
1595. Marcus Lynch Fitz-Nicholas.	Th. Lynch Fitz-Dominick. Gregorie French.
1596. Oliver Oge French.	P. Oge French Fitz-Peter. William Lynch Fitz-Peter.

By-laws.

No craftsman, or, as it were, grey merchaunt, go abroad to buy or sell (under pretence of being servaunts to freemen) any kind of merchandize, cattell or other things, that shall not be of their owne faquilitie; and that no weaver shall weave either lynyne clothe or singlo friese, under the breede of thre quarters of a yarde, on payne of forfaictor.

That neither porters, harpers, messengers, millers, bakers, bowchers, or any nowrses, or any kynde of craftsman, do at no festivall tymes, or at any other tyme, come to any man is howse, to crave either for benbridge, offringe, meate, or any drinke, by any way whatsoever, in vayne, on payne of imprisonment and loss of a crowne, as well of the giver as also of the offender.

That yf any honest mane's wiffe be convided (invited), that she bringe noe more in hir company but one, on payne of a crowne.

That nonedo presume to inter into any house of banckett (banquet) without he be convided; and yf he be convided, to have his billet under the convider's hand, on payne of a crowne.

That no cove or bulloge under thadge of three years be kylde to be solde, upon payne of forfaictors.

That no kynde of salte, in respecto of wadges or gifte, be given to any boteman, either for saile or wadges, ne yet to any caple-man (horse-man), for his earadge or sacke, ne yet for sackes ytsel, but money.

That none shall neither cutt trufts or digge the meadowes and pasture of this towne, either by easte or weaste, especiallie Cossuckin to the eragge of Castle-gare by Pollmorydine, and all aboute the salt-water loagh, and in like manner in the meadowes and pasture of the weaste, within our fraunchis, in no place and in any wise; that the heigh weys be neither hedged or manurede to incroache the comon way, on payne of forfaictor for every theas defaults, not onlie all the labour and manurance, but also xxs. toties quoties.

That no sea-men or sea-man, or, as I would say, fisher-men or fisher-man, do take in hande either the plowghe, spade, or teithe, that would barr them from fyshinge, bothe to serve themselves and the comon wealthe with fyshe, in consideration whereof that the said fisshers and their wiffs and famylie be reasonable served before others with all necessarie sustenunc and foode of provition as cometh to the market, whereby they mought be the better hable toerne their said livinges that way, and have the better hope.

That, according to thauncient statuts, the recourse of the runynge water, thats to say, the little geato ditche water, all alonge that intrethe throughe Nicholas Linche's mill, and the water that intrethe into the gutt, all alonge to the yssuing out of the same in Martine's mill, be allwayes kept cleane, as well within the walls as without,

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1597. Anthony Lynch Fitz-Marcus.	Patrick Kirwan. Andw. Blake Fitz-Patrick.
1598. Nicholas Kirwin Fitz-Denis.	Marcus Blake. Patrick Blake.
1599. Mychell Linche.	Chr. Linche Fitz-Richard. Patk. French Fitz-Olipher.
1600. Francis Martin.	Marc. Lynch FitzMartin. Edmond Lynch Fitz-Pyers
1601. Chris. Lynch Fitz-George.	Robert Blake. Nicholas Lynche.
1602. James Dorsy. ¹⁸	Robert Blake. Nicholas Dorsy.

By-laws.

That thaquavite that is sould in towne ought rather to be clad aqua mortis, to poyson the people, then comfort them in any good sort, and in lik maner all ther byerc; and all wherein thofficers, in reformynge the same, have nede to be mor vigilant and inquisitive than they be.

Ther is no good bread made to be soulede, neither well made nor well backte, ne yett good cheape, as the markett goes, but rather by half and half to deceave the people: for the reformation whercof we fynd, that men and women of good skill in making and bakingo of bread be thereto appointed accordinge, and as the rates of the markett will be sett down by thofficers, so as yt be penny, halfpenny, farthing, always to be founde.

That no victillinge-house, seller, or shoppe, where any victaille, wyne, or aquavite is, be not in any honest sorte keapte cleane, wherein ther is neither sittinge-place, clothe, dish, or any other service, which have great nede of reformation.

That all the meate that is thought to be either sodde or roasted by the bowcherous cooks of this towne is not worth the eatinge, and therefore is not suffrable, which also hath nede of reformation, so as all to be cleane, and retaylied by penny, halfpenny, farthing, and were ther cleane aprons; and that ther be no hornes suffered to be where the meateis adrossing.

That, accordinge thauncient status, hoggs be not suffred to be fedde within the towne, and especially upon the markett place.

That no man shall draw, or cause to be drawn, the wooll of his sheep at no tyme, but rather shorn them in due tyme, and not otherwise.

That no motton or sheepe be burnt with the skyn or wooll to thend, that both mought verio well serve ther owne tornes otherwise.

18. This mayor died on 12th June, 1603; and Christopher Lynch Fitz-George, who was mayor the year before, was chosen in his place for the remainder of the year.

In the year 1604, Andrew French, a native of Galway, (being reduced in his circumstances,) went with his sons, Edmond and Geoffrey, to Spain, where they soon rose to eminence: the latter was appointed governor of a considerable fortress in the West Indies, and his brother receiver of the king's plate; he was also honoured with the order of knighthood of Saint Jago, and finally became admiral of the Spanish fleet, which annually brought home the treasures from the West Indies.

His son Anthony was chosen one of his majesty's pages in ordinary, and, having commanded a troop of horse in the war against France, he was taken prisoner, but was soon after ransomed for a considerable sum by the king's orders. He died without issue, but left a sister honourably married in Spain.—Annals.

In 1608, Lady Jacob, daughter of Ulick Lynch, of Hampton, came to Galway to obtain her pedigree. Her suite was superb, and she was received with every mark of distinction. At this time, a famous school was kept in the town by one Alexander Lynch, which contained several hundred scholars.—Annals.

Mayors.	Bailiffs.
1603. Marcus Lynch Fitz-Stephen.	Martin Galdy Lynch. Oliver Martin.
1604. Marcus French Fitz-John.	Martin Founte. Christopher Blake.
1605. John Skerrett Fitz-William.	G. Lynch Fitz-Domnick. John Lynch Fitz-Marcus.
1606. Edmond French Fitz-Robuck.	Peter Lynch Fitz-Marcus. Pierce Lynch Fitz-Jonick.
1607. Richard Martin.	Martin Dorsey. Robert Martin.
1608. Stephen Kirowan.	Martin Dorsey. James Oge Dorsey.
1609. Olipher Browne. ¹⁹	Nicholas French. Domnick Browne.
Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1610. Richard Bodikin.	Patrick Martin. Christopher Bodkin.
1611. Valentine Blake Fitz-Walter Fitz-Thomas. ²⁰	Andrew Lynch Fitz-John. Thomas Blake.

By-laws.

That candle makers have verie greate nede of reformation, for that they sell neither light nor sight, neither good tallowe nor good treede, ne yet any good stuffe at all for candells.

That no artificer, or man of occupation whatsoever, not suffired to be idilie wandringe and wagginge abroad the streets, tavernes, or other places, upon workinge dayes, without a spetiall good cause; duringe which tyme they must goe either without cloke or mantle, havinge in their hands some token of their owne craftes tooles.

That no woman shall were no gorgiouse aparell, but as becometh them to do, accordinge to their callinge, and in espetiall they shall all together forego the wearing of any hatts or cappes otherwise collored than blacke, and upon them they shall weare no costlie hatt bands or cap bands of gold treede; the mayorases only excepted.

That no woman shall make no open noise of an unreasonable chree, after the Irishrie, either before, ne yet after, the death of any corpes, moche less in the house, street, and before all in the church, the house ne yett in the fields; we meane ther singing songs, songe to the praise of men, both deade and also alive, and not to God everlyng.—Orig. MS.

1605.

That every freeman, being merchant, dwelling in towne, keeping crock and pan, and paying tax and talladge, shall have a voice in electing officers yearly, and also in all general matters which shall happen.

1611.

October 2d, the earl of Thomond, Sir Oliver St. John, vice president of Connaught, Sir Thomas Rotheram, knight, governor of St. Augustine's fort, and Roger O'Shaughnessy, esq. were elected freemen.

19. This mayor was deposed for refusing to take the oath of supremacy, and Thomas Browne was elected in his place; but he, having also refused to take the oath, was fined £100, and Ulick Lynch was chosen for the remainder of the year.

20. This mayor was also deposed, for the same reason, by Sir Oliver St. John, in the presence of William O'Donnell, archbishop of Tuam, (who had shortly before trans-

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1612. Sir Thomas Rotheram. ²¹	M. Lynch Fitz-Christopher Adam Faunte.
1613. Walter Martin.	James Oge Dorsey. George Martin.
1614. Nicholas Dorsey.	James Oge Dorsey. Francis Martin.
1615. Pierce Lynch Fitz-Jonack. ²²	Pierce Martin. Jonack Lynch Fitz-Pierce.
1616. Pierce Lynch Fitz-Jonack.	John French. Edmund Lynch.
1617. Francis Lynch Fitz-Peter.	Thos. Lynch Fitz-Piers. James Semper.
1618. Nicholas Lynch Fitz-George.	James Semper. M. Lynch Fitz-George.
1619. James Darcy Fitz-James.	M. French Fitz-Marcus. Ptr. Martin Fitz-Walter.
1620. Andrew Lynch Fitz-John.	Marcus French. James Semper.
1621. Robert Martin. ²³	Luke Rawsone. Marcus Cornin.
1622. Patrick Martin Fitz-Walter.	James Lynch. Pierce Martin.
1623. Marc. Oge French Fitz-Marcus.	James Lynch. Geoffrey French.

By-laws.

1618.

Sir Charles Coote, knight, Sir John Bourke, of Derrymacklaghney, knight,, Mr. John Bourke, of Downsandle, esq. and John Jacob, of Galway, admitted freemen.

1623.

Edmond Bourke, of Kilcornan, esq. Walter Bourke, of Turlagh, in the county of Mayo, esq. and Donell McRobuck Birmingham, and the heirs of their body begot, elected freemen, they bearing scot and lot.

lated the New Testament and Book of Common Prayer into Irish,) and his place was supplied by Richard Martin.

In 1611, the "young men" obtained a charter from the corporation, instituting them a body politic of themselves, and empowering them to make by-laws for the good government of their company. Their "captain" was privileged to sit next the sheriffs at all public meetings, and to be an esquire for the year. They were also exempted from paying taxes; in consideration of which, they were bound to keep watch and ward.—Annals.

21. This year, no person eligible to the office of mayor could be found in town, who

would take the oath of supremacy; in consequence of which, Sir Thomas Rotheram, governor of St. Augustine's fort, was appointed.

22. Peter French Fitz-Valentine was elected mayor this year; but, having refused the office, he was fined £100. The above mayor was then chosen in his place, and was also re-elected for the succeeding year, as no other would take the oaths.

23. This mayor died in office, and his place was filled by his father, Richard Martin, who was mayor in 1607, and who was also elected in place of Val. Blake, in 1611.

	Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1624.	Robert Blake Fitz-Walter Fitz-Thomas. ¹	Geoffrey French. John Blake.
1625.	Thos. Lynch Fitz-Nicholas Fitz-Stephen Fitz-Arthur.	Walter Browne. William Blake.
1626.	James Lynch Fitz-Martin Fitz-William.	J. Martin Fitz-Nicholas. Marcus Skerret.
1627.	Sir Richard Blake Fitz-Robert Fitz-Walter Fitz-Andrew, knt.	Edmond Kirowan. Nicholas Blake.
1628.	John Lynch Fitz-Richard	Rd. Lynch Fitz-John. Stephen Martin.
1629.	Ns. Lynch Fitz-Jonikine. ²	Martin French. Alex. Bodkin.

By-laws.

1625.

Ordered in Council, that any person who shall scandalize and unmannerly behave himself in speeches to the mayor, shall forfeit £20.

That no outrage, howling, or shoutings, be made in or out of the streets of this towne, at the burial of any deceased person; but that all such barbarous courses be given over, on payne of 5s. for each abuse; whereby all and every corpes here be carried to his grave in a sivell orderly fashione, according to the form in all good places observed.

1628.

May 17.—For as much as the grace of God is the best revenue of this towne, and his blessing our greatest rents; and that charitable distributions are, according to his divine promise, a hundred folde rewarded, both in this and the other world; it is ordained, that the collectors of the rents and revenues of this towne shall, once everie year, distribute £10 between the poor widows of the birth and blood of the towne, in imitation of that good widow, commended by our Saviour, who cast her two mites into the treasurye; and in hope, that the supplying the needful exigents of the poor may increase our comings in, and thereby enable us to do works tending to God's glory, and the good of the commonwealth.

Enacted, that sturdie beggars and poor scholars be banished; and that such poor and needie men, born in the towne, as shall be allowed to begge, shall have leden tokens fastened to their caps, to distinguish them from others. And for as much as divers strangers, and some of the towne, doe keep blind ale-houses, which are the relievers of idlers and malefactors, who, by cheating, cozening, villainies, doe disturbe the quiet and peace of the towne, it is ordered, that the several constables of the several quarters and franchises doe, everie quarter session, present the names of such, and of all other persons selling beer, ale, etc. that a certain number of select men may be named and licensed to doe the same.

1. Until this year, the mayor was elected solely by the aldermen and sheriffs, (the former having either been mayors, or such as were eligible to be so,) and no Catholics were admitted for many years, they invariably refusing to take the oath of supremacy. Thus circumstanced, it was with difficulty persons could be found to fill the office. In order to remedy this inconvenience, the corporation at length resolved, that every freeman should have a vote at the election; in consequence of

which, the above was the first Catholic mayor for the last thirty years.

2. Alderman Marcus Blake was chosen mayor this year, but died on the morning of the day he was to enter into office. "It pleased God Almightye to call him out of this transitorie life to the everlastinge, and oute of the chiefe chaire of this towne (whereof he was to take possession) unto a better and more glorious seat in heaven." Lib. A.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1630. Sir Valentine Blake Fitz-Walter Fitz-Thomas, knt. and bart. ³	Francis Blake. Richard Kirwan.
1631. Geoffrey Martin. ⁴	Robert Kirowan. J. French Fitz-Stephen.
1632. George Martin Fitz-Walter.	P. Martin Fitz-Walter. J. Lynch Fitz-Peaes.
1633. Ptk. French Fitz-George. ⁵	G. French Fitz-Patrick. W. Blake Fitz-Andrew.
1634. Sir Dominick Browne, knt.	M. Lynch Fitz-Stephen. D. Lynch Fitz-John.
1635. Ns. More Lynch Fitz-Marcus.	W. Lynch Fitz-Andrew. C. Bodkin Fitz-Thomas.
1636. Ant. Lynch Fitz-James.	Geffry Font. Domnick French.
1637. Sir Thomas Blake, bart.	M. Lynch Fitz-William. J. Lynch Fitz-Stephen.
1638. Sir Robuck Lynch, bart.	T. Lynch Fitz-Ambrose. Peter Lynch Fitz-Peter.
1639. Jn. Bodikin Fitz-Dominick.	John Kirowan. Francis Athy.
1640. Francis Blake.	Geffry Blake. Martin Lynch.
1641. Walter Lynch Fitz-James Fitz-Ambrose.	J. Martin Fitz-Geffrey. M. Martin Fitz-Nicholas.
1642. Richard Martin Fitz-Oliver. ⁶	Domnick Skerret. John Bermingham.

By-laws.

1642.

An order declaring the right of precedencie in station, and public meetings, within the county of the towne of Galway; wherein, nevertheless, it is meant and intended, that baronets and knights shall holde and enjoy the places and precedencies to them

3. This year it was stipulated that the mayor's salaries should not exceed £12 sterling, "same being the stipend all the old mayors had;" and that the recorder should have but £10 a year, "which was all that our first recorder, Mr. Dominick Martin and Sir Harry Lynch, elected recorder after him, received." Since the mayoralty of Sir Thomas Rotheram, in 1612, the mayor's salary amounted to £100 yearly.

4. On 1st August, Oliver Martin was chosen mayor, and Andrew Browne Fitz-Oliver and Edward French Fitz-Patrick, sheriffs; but Sir Thomas Rotheram having, on 12th September following, come into the thostle, and produced a letter from the privy council, ordering that the magistrates should take the oath of supremacy, the mayor and sheriffs elect requested until the 27th for consideration, upon which they declined to take the oath

and the officers above named were accordingly chosen. It was then ordered that the mayor should have the former stipend of £100 a year for his salary.

5. This sheriff bequeathed £10 yearly, for ever, to release poor prisoners confined for debt in the goal of the town.

6. This mayor (who resided at Dungorie, in the county of Galway) appears to have been a popular and favourite character in those times. He was chosen alderman and mayor of this town in his absence, without his knowledge, and at first refused the offices; but afterwards accepted them, "at the instance of the corporation and of many honourable persons, to the great content of all the inhabitants of this town."—Lib. A. He bequeathed £800 to build a chapel in St. Francis' abbey, and another in St. Nicholas' church; and left legacies to all the convents and abbies in Connaught.—Ib.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1643. Sir Val. Blake, junior, knt. and bart.	Oliver Oge French. John Kirwan.
1644. James Darcy Fitz-Nicholas.	Domnick Darcy. R. Martin Fitz-Jasper.
1645. Edmond Kirwan Fitz-Patrick.	D. Browne Fitz-Nicholas. M. Kirwan Fitz-Andrew.
1646. John Blake Fitz-Nicholas.	D. Blake Fitz-Robert. N. Bodkin Fitz-David.
1647. Walter Browne.	D. Martin Fitz-Tho. P. Browne Fitz-James.
1648. Sir Walter Blake, knt.	M. Blake Fitz-Andrew. J. Blake Fitz-Nicholas.

By-laws.

of right due; and that none shall challenge and enjoy any place but such as go in gownes, except the captain of the "young men."—1. The Mayor.—2. Recorder.—3. Mayor of the staple.—4. Aldermen that bore office by their senioritie.—5. Sheriffs for the time being.—6. The captaine of the young men.—7. Lawyers that were recorders, with their gownes.—8. Aldermen peers, accordinge to their senioritie, in their gownes.—9. The coroner, in his gowne.—10. The chamberlin and escheator, in their gownes.—11. Lawyers and barristers, in their gownes, who did practice, according to their senioritie.—12. Constables of the staple, or late sheriffs.—13. All other sheriffs that bore office, according to their antiquitie.—14. The four captaines of the four quarters.—15. Burgesses, according to their senioritie of house-keeping.—Lib. A.

1648.

Ordered, that lieutenant-colonel William O'Shaughnessie (in consideration of his allyance in bloode to the whole towne, and for the good nature and affection that he and his whole family doe bear to it) and his posteritie shall be hereafter freemen of this corporation.⁸

7. The aldermen were usually chosen on the evening of the last day of July, at a meeting of the mayor, recorder, and such aldermen as bore the office of mayor, commonly called "short council;" and one or two were chosen yearly, to supply the place of the new mayor, and such aldermen as might happen to die.

8. This noble Irish family, of the Hereonian line, (*cujus nobilitatem, antiquitatem, et integritatem, qui non novit, Hiberniam non novit.*—*De Burgo.*) was, from the earliest period, connected with the old natives of Galway. Sir Dermot, the seventh in descent from "Seachnusy," from whom the name was taken, having in 1543 submitted to Henry VII. and surrendered his possessions, that monarch, by letters patent, dated 3rd December the same year, reciting, that although he and his predecessors, kings of England, were the true possessors of those premisses, yet that Sir Dermot and his ancestors possessed them unjustly against the crown, until lately, being truly sensible thereof, he relinquished the same, accordingly granted to Sir Dermot, chief of his name, and his heir male, in capite, by the service

of a knight's fee, all the estate which he had in the manors, lordships, lands, etc., of Gort-Inchigorie, and several other lands; with a proviso, however, of forfeiture, in case of any confederacy or disturbance against the crown.—*Rot. Pat. 35. Hen. VIII.* — Sir Dermot had two sons, Sir Rory and Dermot: the former was married to the lady Onora ny Brien, and had two sons, William and Darby. After his death, his widow, his brother Dermot, and William his eldest son, having some disputes about the property, they were submitted to the arbitration of several members of the privy council of Ireland, who made their award on the 21st March, 1570; by which, amongst other possessions, the lordship of Gort-Inchigorie, etc. was assigned to Dermot, as chief of his name.—*Rot. Pat. 13 Eliz.* — Dermot, his son, died 8th July, 1606, seized of the territory of Kinalea, alias "O'Shaughnes' country," leaving, Roger, otherwise Gilleduffe, (then aged twenty-three years and married,) his heir, and Shyly Nyn Hubert his widow. Sir Dermot, the son of Roger, died in 1673, leaving by his wife, the daughter of lord Barry, Roger, who, in

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1649. Thomas Lynch Fitz-Marcus Fitz-Martin.	S. Lynch Fitz-Nicholas. A. Lynch Fitz-John.
1650. Sir Oliver Oge French, knight.	J. French Fitz-Edmund. P. Lynch Fitz-Anthony.
1651. Richard Kirwan Fitz- Thomas.	T. Lynch Fitz-Patrick. A. Lynch Fitz-Stephen.
1652. Michael Lynch Fitz-Stephen Fitz-Nicholas.	A. Lynch Fitz-Andrew. W. Martin Fitz-Stephen.
1653. ⁹ Arthur Lynch Fitz-Anthony.	Nicholas French. Arthur Lynch.
1654. Thomas Lynch Fitz-Ambrose	Richard Lynch. A. French Fitz-Peter.
— Col. Peter Stubbers.	Paul Dodd. M. Lynch Fitz-Thomas.
1655. Lt. Col. Humphrey Hurd. ¹⁰	John Camel. John Mathews.
1656. Paul Dodd.	John Peters. Mathew Forth.
1657. Gabriel King.	Jarvis Hind. Thomas Harvest.

1688, married Helen, the daughter of Connor O'Bryen, lord viscount Clare. He afterwards joined king James's forces, and was engaged at the battle of the Boyne, from which he returned home sick, though not wounded, and died in the castle of Gort, on the 11th July, 1690. He was attainted on 11th May, 1697, and king William granted all his estates, (which were declared forfeited,) in custodian, to Gustavus, the first baron Hamilton; but he having soon after obtained a grant of other lands, the king, by letters patent, dated 18th June, 1697, granted to Thos. (afterwards Sir Thomas) Prendergast, in consideration of his good and acceptable services, (the discovery of the assassination plot, etc.) all the estate, real and personal, of Roger O'Shaughnessy, esq. deceased, in Gort-Inchigorie, and several other lands in the barony of Kiltartan, and County of Galway. By a subsequent patent, dated 20th September, 1698, reciting the foregoing grant, and also that his majesty was informed, that the estates were then annually worth £500, but that they had since proved very deficient of that sum; and it being the royal intention that £500 a year should have been granted, several other lands of the clear yearly value of 334l. 0s. 2½d. situate in the several counties of Tipperary, Galway, Roscommon and Westmeath, were granted accordingly.—Rot. Pat. 10 William III.—Colonel William O'Shaughnessy, the heir of Roger, the last possessor, having died in exile in France, in 1744, was succeeded by his cousin-german, Coleman, then titular bishop of Ossory, who instituted proceed-

ings at law against Sir Thomas Prendergast, the son of the patentee, for the recovery of the estate of Gort. These proceedings were continued after the bishop's decease by his next relative, Roebuck, and after his death by Joseph O'Shaughnessy, his son, who, having to contend against wealth and power, without the aid of either, was ultimately defeated; and thus ended one of the most ancient and respectable aboriginal families in Ireland.

9. Shortly after this period, colonel Rd. Grace, of Moyelly Castle, in the King's County, (one of the bravest officers of his time, and also one of the most steadfast adherents of the ungrateful Stuart family), while defending an important pass in the neighbourhood of Galway, at the head of 3000 men, was defeated in a sanguinary engagement by colonel Ingoldsby.—This defeat was followed by the speedy reduction of the entire province.

On the 25th October, 1654, the mayor and sheriffs were removed by order of the government, and those immediately succeeding were appointed.—Vide p. 136.

10. This mayor (according to the annals) was originally a carpenter; and Mathews, one of the sheriffs, is stated to have been by trade a weaver; they also inform us, with marked feelings of contempt and indignation, "that Cromwell's soldiers and mechanics," were at this period indiscriminately made free of the corporation; while the former respectable natives and gentry were turned out of the town, and strip of all their possessions, which were seized upon by those rapacious invaders.—Annals,

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1658. Sir C. Coote, knt. and bart.	John May.
1659. John Mathews.	Richard Ormsby.
1660. John Morgan.	Richard Bernard.
1661. John Eyre.	William Speed.
1662. Henery Greneway.	G. Scanderbegg-Bushell.
1663. Edward Eyre.	John Pope.
1664. John Morgan.	John Murray.
1665. Col. John Spencer.	Robert Brock.
1666. The same.	Benjamin Veale.
1667. The same.	Walter Bird.
1668. The same.	Richard Walcott.
1669. John Peters.	John Barrett.
	William Fleming.
	Thomas Semper.
	Robert Warner.
	Geo. Young Husband.
	George Davidson.
	William Jackson.
	Christopher Surr.
	James Berry.
	Richard Bernard.
	John Jull.
	William Hardiman. ¹¹
	Robert Mathews.

11. This individual appears to have been somewhat distinguished above his brother corporators of this period. Soon after the restoration he was appointed by the Duke of York (afterwards James II.) agent over the lands granted to his royal highness in the counties of Mayo, Galway and Clare. His accounts (from which the following acknowledgment is taken) contain many curious particulars: — "We do hereby acknowledge to have received from Mr. Wm. Hardiman, of Galway, the just, full and complete number of thirty-seven bonds etc. for the use of his royal highness, James duke of York, by order, unto us given by his royal highness, 1st May, 1669 James Knowles, William Cooper."—Orig. MS.

This name, though apparently of foreign derivation, is of genuine Irish origin. According to tradition it was at first O'Hartigan, (an ancient family of Munster,) but by provincial pronounciation, and transportation of letters, it became O'Hargidan or Hargadon; and was afterwards transformed into the seemingly English surname Hardiman, as a kind of protection against the cruel persecutions of the unfortunate Irish during the seventeenth century. This family appears to have inherited large properties in Connacht; long after the English power prevailed in the province: amongst others, the extensive tract of Bally-Hargadon, near Loughrea, (now the estate of the right hon. Denis Bowes Daly;) lands of the same name in the parish of Ballycalla, barony of Kilmain, and county of Mayo, and the ruins of an old castle, in the parish of Kilmainmore, same barony and county, still perpetuate the name of their former proprietors. By inquisition, on record, taken at Athenry, 11th Sept. 1607, it was found that Donogh Reagh O'Hargadon or Hartigan, from whom the author of this work is descended, was seized in fee of several lands in the county of Galway. During the civil wars, his offspring (some of whom adopted the surname Hardiman) were deprived of the whole, and many of them were reduced to indigence, or, to use the expression contained in the memoirs of the late Chas. O'Connor concerning the ancient Irish families, "they melted into peasants before his face." The writer of this, however, even still possesses a small hereditary property in Mayo; and he hopes that after treating of so many other names and families throughout this volume, the indulgent reader will excuse these few words concerning his own.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1670. John May.	Robert Warner.
	Abraham Cowell.
1671. Richard Ormsby.	John Geary.
	John Vaughan.
1672. Gregory Constable.	Thomas Andrews.
	William Hill.
1673. The same.	Thomas Revett.
	Thos. Cartwright.
1674. Col. Theodore Russell.	Thomas Buck.
	Marcus Harrington.
1675. The same.	John Flower.
	Thomas Poole.
1676. The same.	John Clarke.
	Richard Browne.
1677. The same.	Same.
1678. The same.	Thomas Staunton.
	John Amory.
1679. The same.	Same.
1680. The same.	Thos. Simcockes
	Samuel Cambie.
1681. The same.	The Same.
1682. Col. Theodore Russell.	Marcus Lynch.
	William Hoskins.
1683. The same.	Thomas Yeaden.
	William Hoskins.
1684. The same.	Thomas Yeaden.
	Thomas Wilson.

By-laws.

1679.

Ordered that several persons in the order named (principally the ancient families of Galway) are not fit to live in the towne, or men useful to the garrison.

That notice be given forthwith to all persons that are not free of the corporation, that they do not presume to trade by retail within the town, ithre in shops or houses, or their goods shall be seised and sold.—The next year, alderman Robert Mathews, for abuse given by him to the mayor, was suspended from council; and it was ordered, “that such persons as have borne offices in this corporation (masters of companies excepted) shall, every Sunday, in the forenoon, attend the king’s sword to church in their gowns; every person neglecting, to pay half a cobb each time, and upon refusal to be expelled the council, and that no person do presume to sit in the mayor’s first seat without his gown.

1683.

That any of the council who shall depart without taking leave from Mr. Mayor shall forfeit a cobb. Also that the charge of new casting the old bells and two new bells, and raising the steeple of this town, be defrayed out of the public revenue of this corporation.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1685. The same.	Richard Wall. Thomas Wilson.
1686. John Kirwan Fitz-Stephen. ¹²	George Staunton. Jonathan Perrie.
1687. The same.	J. Browne Fitz-Geoffry. M. Kirwan Fitz-Domk.
1688. Dominick Browne.	F. Blake Fitz-Andrew. D. Bodkin Fitz-Patrick.
1689. The same.	Same.

By-laws.

1685.

Ordered, that no cattle be hereafter slaughtered within this town, nor suffered to come into it; that no milch cows be permitted in, and that 2s. 6d. fine be imposed on any one throwing garbage into the river. The next year it was ordered, that all meat blown in the shambles should be seised, and disposed of to the prisoners and poor. £15. were ordered alderman Revett for entertaining the judges of assize for six years past; and every inhabitant was directed to pave before his door in such manner as the mayor and sheriffs should direct.

1687.

That the charter be forthwith taken out, and that it is the sense of the council that their liberties be enlarged four myle, to say, to Clare Bridge, and so proportionably to the southward as far as Oranmore, and in the west as far as Forbagh to the sea side, and as far as Clydagh towards the lough, and that the old priviledges in the former charters before 1641 be obtained; that is, the election of warden and the mayor to be vice-admiral within the precincts of the port, and he and the recorder to be justices throughout the province.

1688.¹³

On the petition of Joseph Flin, master of the joyners, masons, shipp-wrights, plasterers, turners, slaters, sawyers, upholsterers, millers and millwrights, a new charter was granted to those different guilds, and a similar one soon after to the company of tallow-chandlers, soap-boilers and smiths. It was afterwards ordered, that all the natives, and others, who were entitled to their freedom, might, at any time, attend before the mayor, and be sworn without fees.

12. This mayor (the only Catholic that filled the office since 1654) was the first proprietor of his name, of the ancient estate of Castle-Hackett, which originally belonged to the Hackett family. — Vide page 16, note.—By inquisition taken 29th Jan. 1584, it was found, “that Ulic Mac Rodmond Mac Moyler died on the 22nd Sept. 1571, seized, of the castles of Castle-Hackett and Cahire-Morris; but that Mc. Hackett, the chief of his name, and others of the sept of the Hacketts, claim the aforesaid castle of Castle-Hackett, with the two quarters of land adjoining.”—Rem. Off.—This ancient sept was also driven to Mayo after 1641, and is now nearly extinct.

13. In the summer of 1688, a vast swarm of insects, of the Scarabeus or beetle kind, appeared on the S.W. coast of Galway, not far from the town: they were brought by a S.W. wind, and proceeded towards Headford, where, and in the adjacent country,

they lay by thousands among the trees and hedges, hanging to the boughs in clusters, and sticking to the backs of one another, like bees when they swarm. In this manner they continued quiet during the heat of the day; but towards evening they simultaneously took wing, with a strange noise, resembling the distant beating of drums, and in such vast and incredible numbers, as to darken the air for many miles round. In a short time they devoured all the leaves of the trees; and the country, though it was then the middle of summer, was left as naked as if it had been the depth of winter. The grinding of the leaves in the mouths of this vast multitude made a sound similar to the sawing of timber. They destroyed all the gardens round the country, and particularly Mr. Martin’s beautiful plantations at Dangan; entered the houses, and, crawling about, fell into the food of the people; and where-

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1690. Arthur French. ¹⁴	William Clear. Oliver French.
1691. Sir Henry Bellasyse, bart.	John Gibbs. Richard Wall.
1692. Thomas Revett.	Same.
1693. The same.	Same.
1694. Thomas Simcokes.	Thomas Coneys. Francis Knapp. James Ribett Vigie.
1695. The same.	Francis Knapp. James Ribett Vigie.
1696. Thomas Cartwright.	Marcus Lynch. Jarvis Hinde.

By-laws.

1690.

The clerk of the privy council having, by letter of the 15th April, signified that his majesty (James II.) required the mayor of Galway to call a common council, and agree upon such rates of provisions as they should judge reasonable between buyer and seller, the following were accordingly ordered, viz. — Iron to be sold to the retailer at 18s. the cwt. and by him for 22s.—salt at 15s. the barrel, according to the usual measure of the town, and to be retailed at 17s. 6d. being 1¾d. for each quart of heaped measure.—Flemish hops to be retailed at 2s. per lb.—stall-fed beef, the best not to exceed 2d. for the choice pieces, and 1½d. by the quarter—ordinary beef not to exceed 1d. per lb.—mutton 1d.—veal and pork 1½d.—bacon 3d.—cheese 2½d.—fresh butter 4d.—the best salt butter 3d.—soap 4d.—candles 4½d.—French wine to be sold to the retailer at £40 the tun, and the retailer to sell it at 12d. the quart—brandy to be sold to the retailer at £50 the tun, the retailer to sell it at 15d. the quart—the best beer and ale to be sold at 2d. the quart—and small beer at ½d.—Lib C 15.

1696.

That no person but a freeman keep open shop in Galway or the liberties thereof, or sell or expose to sale any wares therein, except on market days, and paying quarterly.¹⁶

ever they happened to strike, they left a slight mark behind. Their spawn they deposited near the surface of the ground, where it did considerable damage, by devouring the roots of the corn and grass. These formidable invaders were, however, easily killed; smoke was their greatest enemy, and one wet day destroyed heaps of them. They proved good for the swine and poultry, and, according to some, were also used by the poorer sort of people. From the time of their first appearance they continued to proceed progressively with the westerly wind, and in 1696 they reached the Shannon; but they were gradually destroyed. The year before, about forty or fifty horse-loads were found lying dead along the shores of the bay for miles westward of Galway. It was supposed that this new colony, coming from their native lands, Normandy or Brittany, in France, met with a contrary wind, which having blown them into the sea, they were drowned, and their bodies cast ashore.

Since that time, however, nothing of the same kind has appeared.—See Boate and Molincaux's Nat. History of Ireland.

14. Colonel Alexander McDonnell was mayor until the 8th of December, when he was removed by order of government, and the above appointed.

15. These prices are higher than might have been expected at so distant a period; but they were considerably enhanced by the circumstances of the times and the situation of the town, which was at the time in daily expectation of being besieged.

16. This oppressive by-law was entirely directed against the Roman Catholic inhabitants, none of whom were then free. They petitioned the lords justices and council against it, but without effect; it continued, therefore, rigidly in force for many years after, and was one of the principal causes of the decay of the town.

The year 1701 was rendered memorable for the great shoals of herrings which

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1697. John Gerry.	Marcus Lynch.
1698. The same.	Thomas Poole.
1699. Thomas Andrews. ¹⁷	Jarvis Hinde.
1700. Richard Browne.	Thomas Poole.
1701. Thomas Staunton.	Samuel Simcockes.
1702. The same.	Robert Blakeney.
1703. James Ribett Vigie.	Samuel Simcockes.
1704. John Eyre. ¹⁸	Robert Blakeney.
1705. The same.	John Broughton.
1706. The same.	John Feuquire.
1707. Richard Wall.	John Broughton.
1708. Richard Gibbs.	John Feuquire.
1709. Jarvis Hinde.	George Gerry.
	William Hinde.
	George Gerry.
	Marcus Wall.
	William Fisher.
	Same.
	William Fisher.
	Henry Lardner. ¹⁹
	Edward Barrett.
	Henry Lardner.
	George Staunton.
	Charles Gerry.

By-laws.

1701.

That the last two mayors do pay £50 each (out of the arrears due to them) towards building the Exchange or the Tholsel, and that the present mayor shall have £200 salary, allowing £50 for the same purpose. In 1704 it was ordered, that no mayor should have more than £150, (in 1707 it was reduced to £100,) until the Tholsel should be built, and that the number of aldermen should not exceed twenty-six.

1702.

For the services of lieutenant-colonel Nicholson in fortifying Mutton Island, "which will encourage shipping to resort to this port," he was provided with lodgings at the expense of the corporation.

1705.

That all the popish shop-keepers do appear before council, and shew cause why they should not pay quarteridge.

were taken in the bay, although only seventy fishing boats were employed during the season. On the night of the 15th September they amounted to 1000 barrels, which were sold for 4s. 6d. and, at the end of that and the following year, for 8d. a thousand. Codd was also taken in such quantities, though at an unusual season, that the best was sold for a penny, and, in 1703, for a halfpenny a piece. At the same time, prime mutton sold in the town

from four pence to six pence a quarter, and ordinary small mutton for three pence, and less.—Annals.

17. This mayor bestowed an ornamental case to preserve the king's sword in St. Nicholas's church.

18. This Mayor bestowed £200 of his salary towards building the Exchange.

19. Alderman Edward Eyre objected to this sheriff for having a popish wife.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1710. Edward Eyre.	Robert Mason.
	David Tenant.
1711. The same.	Robert Coates.
	Edward Rhodes.
1712. The same. ²⁰	Charles Morgan.
	William Moore.
1713. Robert Blakney.	J. Lynch Fitz-Marcus.
	Thomas Smith.
1714. The same.	Same.
1715. The same.	Samuel Blood.
	Thomas Hendron.
1716. Robert Coates.	John Gibbs.
	Thos. Hendron.
1717. The same.	Richard Hutchinson.
	Geffrey Cooke.
1718. Mark Wall.	John Marmion.
	John Grindleton.
1719. Samuel Simcockes. ²¹	Robert Andrews.
	John Hautenville.

By-laws.

1718.

The several persons who, in November and December last, were elected members of the common council, having been so elected manifestly with a design to evade the statute which on 25th of said month of Dec. was to be in force, and in order to perpetuate the government of this corporation in several gentlemen, and others, in the county of Galway, and elsewhere, who have no interest or concern in the town, or pay any scot, lot, or other contribution therein, by means whereof the Protestant inhabitants are greatly discouraged, and that part of the statute, whereby Protestants are encouraged to come and dwell in the town, will be frustrated, if not prevented; ordered, June 30th, that these persons be no longer members of the common council.

20. May 12th.—The necessity and advantage to the town and corporation, of having a spacious entrance open and unbuilt before William's-gate, leading to the east suburbs and to Boher-more, having been this day presented in council, alderman Edward Eyre (whose father, in 1670, obtained a lease of part of said ground, with several other parcels,) declared that he would agree to grant a piece of ground, containing about thirty perches, for that purpose; in consideration of which, the corporation (himself being mayor,) on the 19th of May following, extended the term of his lease to lives renewable for ever.—Corporation Book.

21 The following document will show the estimation of the Simcockes family in Galway since the revolution. "We, the Mayor, Recorder, clergy and the rest of the Protestant gentry of the town of Galway, do certify that Mr. Richard Simcockes, of this town, mariner, is descended from an ancient Protestant family of this place;

that, soon after the late happy revolution of King William III. of glorious memory, his grandfather, alderman Thomas Simcockes, was mayor of this town two years successively, as was also his father alderman Simcockes, soon after the accession of his late majesty, King George I. when, for their well-known loyalty and warm affection to his illustrious house in the preceding critical times, both his grandfather and father were, at the same time, appointed justices of the peace for this town, in the first commission that was ever granted, pursuant to an act of Parliament then made for strengthening the Protestant interests therein, and were honoured with commands in the militia in every array since that happy era; in which stations they acquitted themselves with integrity and credit; agreeable to the true Protestant principles, which they always professed, and which are still retained by their descendants now living here, as we verily believe they are by the said Richard,

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1720. The same.	Francis Wheeler.
	Thomas Holland.
1721. William Hinde.	Edward Rhodes.
	Howell Price.
1722. The same.	John Marmion.
	James Ribett.
1723. The same.	John Marmion.
	John Cox.
1724. George Gerry.	Richard Hutchinson.
	Francis Wheeler.
1725. George Staunton.	Charles Rivett.
	Erasmus Irvin.
1726. Charles Gerry.	Robert French.
	R. McMullin.
1727. Richard Revett.	John O'Hara.
	Robert Cooke.
1728. Richard Revett.	Henry Morgan.
	Francis Simcockes.
1729. John Gibbs.	Patrick Blake.
	Andrew Holmes.
1730. ²² John Staunton.	Rickard Fitz-Patrick.
	Nehemiah Morgan.
1731. Walter Taylor.	George Staunton.
	Henry Ellis.
1732. Charles Morgan.	N. Staunton.
	Ptk. Blake, junior.
1733. Geoffry Cooke.	Richard Barrett.
	William Fairservice.
1734. John Bird.	John Simcockes.
	Hugh Wilkinson.

By-laws.

1734.

That the recorder, for the time being, quatenus recorder, but no longer, shall sit and vote in the common council, though not admitted a member thereof.—(repealed 27th July, 1772, Lib. I.) — Also ordered, that £30 be paid to alderman Charles Revett, apothecary, to furnish his shop with drugs, proper for supplying the Protestants, or others.

who is married to the daughter of an old Protestant, and, during his abode here, made constant profession of them.

Given under our hands this 25th of February, 1752." Orig. MS. signed.

22 On the 10th June, 1730, a patent for an additional weekly Monday market, and four additional markets on every four Fridays next before Christmas day, together with three additional fairs on 20th May, 10th September and 10th October, to be held on the square plot next the

east gate of the town, was obtained by the corporation.—4° Geo. II. 2 p.—(It may here be added, that the patent for the fair on the 24th August and the two days following, to be held at Fair-hill, or at the Abbey of St. Dominick, near Galway, was obtained on the 19th June, 1613, by Nicholas Darcy, esq.—11° Ja. I. 2 p.)—In the same year, 1730, Andrew Lynch and his sons were discharged from gate-age, customs and taxes, for seven years, for keeping the streets clean.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1735. Dominick Burke.	Robert Cooke.
1736. John Staunton.	Anthony Taylor.
1737. Dominick Burke.	Henry Ellis.
1738. Rickard Fitz-Patrick .	Ptk. Blake, junior.
1739. ²³ Henry Ellis.	Robert McMullin.
1740. Thomas Holland.	Thomas Northeast.
1741. Robert Cook.	Rickard Barrett.
1742. John Disney.	William Fairservice.
1743. Thomas Shaw.	Henry Vaughan.
1744. George Purdon.	Simon Truelock.
1745. ¹ John Mills.	Aston Swanwick.
1746. Croasdaile Shaw.	Henry Lewin.
1747. James O'Hara.	Croasdaile Shaw.
1748. James Disney. ²	John Johnston.
	George Simcockes.
	John Hamlin.
	Michael Fairservice.
	Tobias Sherwood.
	Charles Hamlin.
	Thomas Sherwood.
	John Johnson.
	John Shaw.
	George Thomas.
	Francis Wadman.
	George Shaw.
	Edward Shields.
	Francis Hopkins.
	Henry Covey.

By-laws.

1747.

On 20th February, ordered, that £900 be granted to alderman Rickard Fitzpatrick, his heirs and assigns, by mortgage of all the corporation lands and revenues, to reimburse him his expense for several years in assiduously supporting the rights, privileges and immunities of the corporation.—Also, that no succeeding mayor be allowed any salary whatever, but by the appointment of the majority of the common council.

²³ During the great frost in 1730, the river was frozen from the bridge to the mouth of Lough-Corrib, and continual recreations were held on the ice, from the Wood-quay to Newcastle and Terrilan-bridge. This memorable winter was followed by famine and pestilence, in which multitudes of the poor perished; and, during the summer of 1741, an epidemic fever raged so violently in the town, that the judges adjourned the assizes to Tuam.—Annals.

¹ The year 1745 was remarkable for a great fall of snow, by which vast numbers of sheep and black-cattle were destroyed. The farmers surrendered their

holdings, and the best lands in the province were set for 5s. an acre. Many, who took long leases at this period, were enriched in the space of a few years, wheat having soon after risen from 6s. to 18s. a ewt. John French, merchant, imported upwards of 3000l. worth of corn this year, which greatly relieved the country.

² This year a double return was made to the privy council for mayor, and they approved of the above, who was sworn, by his father, a justice of the peace for the county. The last mayor held over until he was dispossessed by the military.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1749. John Eyre.	Elias Tankerville.
	John Mandeville.
1750. The Hon. Fras. Annesley. ³	John Morgan.
	John Loftus.
1751. James Staunton.	Richard Mathews.
	George Drury.
1752. John Hamlin.	Aston Swanwick.
	Joseph Seymour.
1753. Ambrose Poole.	John Mandeville.
	James Jones.
1754. George Simcockes.	John Johnson.
	Samuel Shone.
1755. John Shaw.	George Drury.
	Hugh Wilkinson.
1756. Patrick Blake.	Edward Murphy.
	James Galbraith.
1757. Robert Cooke.	Same.
1758. Edward Shields.	Same.
1759. Croasdaile Shaw.	Richard Blake.
	Hugh Montgomery.
1760. Thomas French.	James Foster.
	Henry Covey.
1761. Charles Revett.	James Galbraith.
	John Mandeville.
1762. Charles Daly.	Richard Blake.
	Hugh Montgomery.
1763. Henry Ellis.	Edward Murphy.
	James Galbraith.
1764. Colonel John Eyre. ⁴	Elias Tankerville.
	Charles Lopdell.

By-laws.

1752.

Ordered, that the following address be presented to his majesty, Geo. II. to congratulate him on his safe return to his British dominions:—"We, the mayor, etc. of this ancient and loyal corporation, beg leave, with humble and joyful hearts, to congratulate your majesty on your safe and happy return to your British dominions, which we consider as the greatest blessing to all your subjects; and beg leave to assure your majesty, that none of them are more truly sensible of the happiness we enjoy under your majesty's mild and wise administration, or more ardently wish a long continuance of it; and we will lay hold of every occasion of testifying the most unfeigned and zealous loyalty and affection to your majesty's person and government. —Dated and given under our common-seal, at the Tholsel in Galway, the 14th day of December, 1752."

³ This mayor died in office, and John Eyre was elected in his place.

⁴ This year there was a double return for mayor. The candidates were Richard Fitzpatrick, and Richard Martin, of Dan-gan. Neither being approved of by the privy council, another election was directed., when the above mayor was approved of and accordingly sworn,

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1765. James Daly.	Luke Dodgworth.
	Hugh Wilkinson.
1766. Henry White.	George Lewis.
	Hugh Montgomery.
1767. John Gibson.	Charles Daly.
	Edward Shields.
1768. ⁵ Thomas Taylor.	Samuel Grace.
	Robert McMullin.
1769. Denis Daly, of Dunsandle.	Edmund Fitz-Patrick.
	Richard Blake.
1770. Anthony Daly.	George Drury.
	Elias Tankerville.
1771. Patrick Blake. ⁶	Thomas Clutterbuck.
	Luke Thomas.
1772. Denis Daly.	Thomas Bodkin.
	John Thomas.
1773. Charles French.	John Morgan.
	Robert Squibb.
1774. Rev. Edmund French.	George Thomas.
	Samuel Grace.
1775. Elias Tankerville. ⁷	Robert O'Hara.
	James Shee.

5 1768, Thursday, October 4th. — Francis Lynch, of Rahoon, was sworn one of the grand-jurors of the town, and was the first Roman Catholic who served as such since the revolution.

6 For some years after this the town was considerably agitated by corporate disputes between this mayor, his successor, and their respective friends.—(See p. 193.)—In Michaelmas-term 1772, application was made to the King's-bench for liberty to file an information against Denis Daly for usurping the office of mayor that year, but without effect; judgment of ouster was, however, obtained by the sheriffs. The former officers, at the same time, held over, and retained the corporation seal, and were regularly elected for some years after, but not approved of by the privy council; and though the town had thus to boast of so many magistrates, it was, in fact, never less peaceable than during that period. John Staunton, the recorder, died on the 2nd December, 1772. James O'Hara, counsellor, was elected and sworn in his place by the approved party, and Martin Kirwan, counsellor, by the other; and, although judgment of ouster was obtained against the former for usurpation, he still retained the office. No other change took place until the death of Clutterbuck, one of the adverse sheriffs, in 1774, when his place was supplied by Henry Covey, Burgess. — Orig. MS.

7 This year a petition was presented to the lord lieutenant and council, stating, that on the 1st August, Patrick Blake, mayor; Martin Kirwan, recorder; Henry Covey, esq. one of the sheriffs, and about sixty of the common council, assembled between eleven and one o'clock, at a convenient place within the town, and proceeded to the election of corporate officers; that petitioners, Samuel Simcocks, Martin Kirwan, Charles Revett, Charles Truelock, and John Hamlin, were elected and chosen mayor, recorder, sheriff, and town-clerk, and that their names had been, thereupon, presented to the privy council; but that afterwards on the same day, the reverend Edmund French, who took upon himself to act as mayor, and Samuel Grace and George Thomas, as sheriffs, presided at a pretended assembly of the common council, for the same purpose. That, petitioners and many members of the common council there present, protested against, and objected to, the legality of that assembly; but, notwithstanding, Jas. O'Hara, Thomas Bodkin, John Thomas, and Denis Daly, with several other persons who usurped the offices of common councilmen, insisted that said election should proceed, and, accordingly, took upon themselves to elect the officers above named, and present them to the privy council for approbation, though not in the name or under the common seal of the

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1776. James Shee.	Samuel Grace.
1777. Denis Daly.	James Burke.
1778. Peter Daly.	Robert Squibb.
1779. ⁸ Hyacinth Daly.	William Burnett.
1780. Denis Daly.	John Morgan.
1781. Hyacinth Daly.	Michael Kelly.
1782. Anthony Daly.	James Burke.
1783. Denis Daly.	Samuel Grace.
1784. Denis Bowes Daly.	John Bradley.
1785. Denis Daly.	Samuel Grace.
1786. Rev. Ralph Daly.	Michael Kelly.
1787. Denis Bowes Daly.	Samuel Grace.
1788. Denis Daly.	Michael Kelly.
	John Bradley.
	John Lynch.
	William Frazer.
	John Morgan.
	John Bradley.
	Robert Squibb.
	John Bradley.
	John Morgan.
	Luke Thomas.
	Michael Kelly.
	Charles Donnellan.
	William Frazer.
	Robert Squibb.

By-laws.

1779.

Ordered, that the freedom of this corporation be presented, in a gold box, to the right honourable Walter Burgh, accompanied with the following address:—"We, the mayor, etc. fully sensible of the great ability and diligence manifested by you in a judicial character amongst us, and of the virtue and firmness exerted in your legislative capacity, beg leave, as a small mark of our gratitude, to offer you the freedom of this ancient and once flourishing town—a distinction which your spirited endeavours have so eminently contributed to recover. We must, at the same time, in common with the rest of Ireland, lament the prevalence of those councils which extorted a resignation from that servant of the crown, in whom the people implicitly confided, and whose wisdom adopted the only remaining mode of averting the ruin of this country."

corporation.—Petitioners, therefore, prayed to be heard by council and that they should be approved of, and the others disallowed.—Orig. MS.—This petition, however, fell to the ground; and the entire opposition being attributed to the circumstance of originally admitting Patrick Blake to be sworn mayor, none but members of the name and family of Daly have been mayors of Galway since the year after this period.

8 1779, May 31st, the Galway Volunteers were embodied, and the following officers elected:

Richard Martin, esq. of Dangan, col.
James Shee, esq. deputy mayor, lieutenant-colonel.
John Blake, esq., of Cooleun, major.
J. O'Hara, esq. recorder, captain of grenadier company.
Mark Lynch, esq., capt. of the battn. company.
Michael Blake, esq. of Ffrenchfort, captain of the light infantry.
Mr. Jasper Lynch, adjutant.

Mayors.	Sheriffs.
1789. Peter Daly.	Michael Kelly.
1790. Denis Bowes Daly.	Edmund Fitzpatrick.
1791. St. George Daly. ⁹	John Bradley.
1792. Richard Daly. ¹⁰	Robert Squibb.
1793. Denis Bowes Daly.	Same.
1794. Major Peter Daly.	Same.
1795. Hyacinth Daly.	Thomas Browne.
1796. St. George Daly.	Charles Morgan.
1797. Hyacinth Daly.	Peter Daly.
1798. Denis Bowes Daly.	Ed. Fitzpatrick.
1799. Colonel Peter Daly.	John Bradley.
1800. Hyacinth Daly.	Robert Squibb.
1801. Colonel Peter Daly.	Hyacinth Daly.
1802. Hyacinth Daly.	Michael Burke.
1803. Denis Bowes Daly.	Denis Bowes Daly
1804. James Daly.	Edmund Fitzpatrick.
1805. Hyacinth Daly.	St. George Daly.
1806. Denis Bowes Daly.	Hyacinth Daly.
1807. The same.	Denis B. Daly.
1808. Hyacinth Daly.	John Thomas.
1809. Denis Bowes Daly.	Thomas Browne.
1810. James Daly.	John Thomas.
1811. Hyacinth Daly.	Same.
1812. Denis Bowes Daly.	John Strogen.
1813. Hyacinth Daly.	Michael Dillon.
1814. James Daly.	Same.
1815. Hyacinth Daly.	Same.
1816. The same.	Same.
	Michael Dillon.
	Charles O'Hara.
	William Mason.
	Charles O'Hara.
	Same.
	Same.
	Same.
	Same.
	Same.
	Thomas Browne.
	Francis Eagar.
	Jethro Bricknell.
	Francis Eagar.
	Same.
	Same.
	Same.

⁹ Brother of the right hon. Denis Daly, and afterwards one of the judges of the King's-bench.

¹⁰ This mayor died in office, and Denis Bowes Daly, esq. succeeded to the end of the year.

1817. Parnell Gale.	Michael Dillon.
	Matthew T. Smyth.
1818. James Daly.	Same.
1819. The same.	Same.

CHARTERS GRANTED TO THE CORPORATION.

- Edw. III. 1361, May 20, Murage Charter.—Rot. Pat. 34. Edw. III. Tower of London.
 ——— 1375, May 10, Charter of the Staple.—Id. 49 Edw. III. Bermingham Tower.
- | | |
|--|--|
| Rich. II. 1396. Nov. 8, Murage Charter | } Of these three charters there are no enrolments extant, but they are recited by inspeximus in the succeeding grants. |
| ——— ———, Jan. 26, Charter of Incorporation | |
| Hen. IV. 1405, Mar. 12, Charter of Confirmation, | |
- Edw. IV.. 1464, Aug. 28, Like.—Rot. Pat. 4 Edw. IV. Tower of London.
 Rich. III. 1484., Dec. 15, New Charter of Incorporation. No enrolment extant, but recited in the subsequent charters.
 Hen. VIII. 1545, July 3, Former charters confirmed and new privileges granted.—Rot. Mem. 36 Hen. VIII. Rem.-office.
 Edw. VI. 1549, Nov. 6, Charter of Confirmation.—Rot. Pat. 3 Edw. VI. Rolls-office.
 Elizab. 1575, July 14, New charter granting various privileges.—Rot. Pat. 20. Eliz ib
 James I. 1610, Dec. 18, Charter appointing first sheriffs, and erecting the town into a separate county.—Rot. Pat. 8. Jas. I. ib.
 Chas. II. 1679, Aug. 14, New Charter of Incorporation.—Rot. Pat. 22 Cha. II. ib.
 James II. 1687, Mar. 12, Like (Inoperative since 1691.)—Rot. Pat. 4 James II. ib.

RECORDERS.

The corporation was first empowered by the Charter of Elizabeth to elect recorders. The first elected was Dominick Martin, 1595. They are chosen and sworn annually with the mayors and sheriffs.

1595. Dominick Martin.	1666. John Shadwell.
1610. Damian Peck. ¹¹	1670. William Sprigg.
——. Dominick Martin.	1686. Sir Henry Lynch, bart.
1625. Sir Henry Lynch Bart. ¹²	1687. Thos. Lynch Fitz-Isidore.
1630. Stephen Lynch.	1691. Nehemiah Donnellan.
1632. Marcus Martin.	1694. William Handcock.
1633. Stephen Lynch.	1695. Robert Ormsby.
1636. Thomas Lynch Fitz-Marcus.	1706. John Staunton.
1642. John Blake.	1717. Arthur Ormsby.
1654. Robert Clarke.	1718. Robert Shaw.
1655. Henry Greenaway.	1725. John Staunton.
1657. James Cuffe.	1730. Thomas Staunton.
1659. Edward Eyre.	1737. Robert Shaw.
1663. Henry Whaley.	1738. Edward Eyre.

¹¹ This recorder was elected under the charter of James I. and his fee was augmented, provided he should not name a deputy without the consent of the mayor, aldermen and freemen. His election took place in consequence of his predecessor having refused to take the oath of supremacy; but he does not appear to have continued long in office, for the preceding re-

cordor immediately after succeeded, and continued until 1625.

¹² Sir Henry Lynch was this year appointed one of the barons of the exchequer; and his successor (who at his request, was nominated recorder) petitioned lord Tyrconnell that he might be dispensed with from taking the oath of supremacy, which was accordingly granted. He was sworn into office on the 18th May, 1687.

1739. Dominick Burke.	1761. John Staunton.
1747. Eyre French.	1772. James O'Hara.
1749. John Staunton.	1773. John Morgan.
1750. John Morgan.	1774. James O'Hara.
1752. James Staunton.	1819. James O'Hara, Jun.

TOWN CLERKS.

The duty now performed by the Town Clerk was originally executed by a corporate officer, called a notary; which office was filled by Nicholas Mulligan from 1539 to 1561, and by Thomas Coleman from 1561 to 1573; also, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Anthony Dermot, Marcus Martin and Christopher French, were successively notaries, as appears by the corporation-book A. where their names occur signed to several official acts; and Nicholas Lynche appears also to have been "town-clerk" in 1585.—(vide page 209.) The Charter of Charles II. first gave a power to appoint "some discreet person to be town-clerk."—Jerome Russell was the first appointed, and to him succeeded.

1679. Robert Shaw.	1757. James O'Hara.
1674. Richard Revett.	1774. Robert O'Hara.
1728. Robert McMullen.	1775. James O'Hara.
1729. Richard Revett.	1777. Robert O'Hara.
1736. Alexander Lynch.	1778. James O'Hara.
1738. Robert Cook.	1789. Robert O'Hara.
1741. Robert McMullen.	1812. John O'Hara.
1742. Robert Cooke.	

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF GALWAY, AND A LIST OF THE MEMBERS
FOR THE TOWN SINCE THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH.

The most ancient summonses to the parliament of Ireland extant, are directed to the barons and members by name. In the year 1310, Richard de Burgo was summoned for Connaught.—*Rot. Claus. 3 Edw. II.*—In subsequent records of that and the succeeding reign, other members of the same family were summoned for the "County of Connaught."—*Id. 46 and 48 Edw. III.*—After this period, writs were directed to the sheriffs of counties and magistrates of cities and towns. It does not appear that Galway returned any members to the memorable Irish parliament convened at Westminster in 1376; but, on the 22nd January, the year following, the provost and bailiffs were summoned to appear at a parliament to be held at Trisdeldermot, on Monday next after the feast of embers; and they were afterwards fined £100 for not attending.—*Rot. Claus. 1 Rich. II.*—A like summons issued, dated 11th September, 1380.—*Id. de ann. 4.*—another 29th April, 1382, and one in 1394.—*Id. de Ann. 5 and 18.*—Similar summonses at the same time issued to the provost and bailiffs of Athenry. In the great roll of the Pipe, 14 Hen. VI. in Berm. Tower, the chief magistrate and constable of Galway were fined 100s. because, at the council of the lord and king, on Friday next after the feast of St. Nicholas and bishop, in the

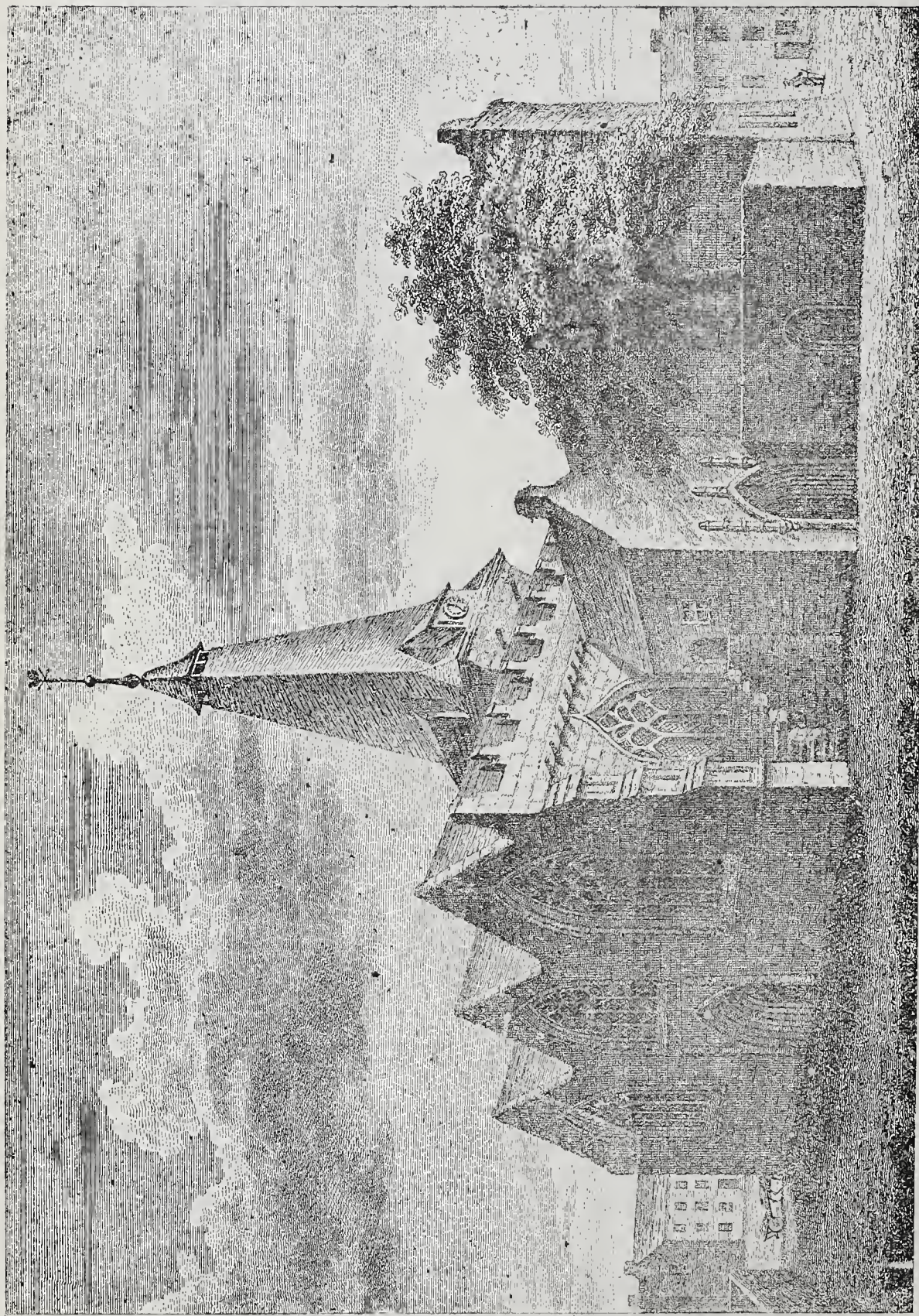
8th year of the king's reign, they neither attended by themselves nor by proxy, nor returned the king's writ to them at that time directed. The same roll contains an entry of another fine of £10 against them, because they did not return the king's writ to the parliament held at Dublin, on Friday next after the feast of the Holy Trinity, in the 9th year of the king; and in another record (*Rot. Pat.* 28 *Hen. VI.*) the sovereign and provost of the town are fined £40 for not returning the king's writ to them, directed to the Parliament, held at Drogheda on Tuesday next after the feast of St. Mark, 1450.—Of the names of the members comprising the several parliaments of Ireland before the year 1559 there is no account extant; but, from that period to the present, the following is a correct list of the successive representatives of the town of Galway :

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1559. Jonoke Lynce, of Galway.
Peter Lynce, of same.
(From the Parliament of 1568 no list extant.) | 1713. John Staunton, esq.
Samuel Eyre, of Eyrecourt, esq. |
| 1585. Peter Lynche.
Jonoke Lynche.
Robuck French Fitz-John. | 1714. John Staunton, esq.
Robert Shaw, jun. esq.
Edward Eyre, esq.
(John Staunton mis-elected.) |
| 1613. Valentine Blake, of Muckinis, ald.
Geof. Lynch Fitz-Dom. of Galway. | 1727. John Staunton, esq.
Thomas Staunton, esq. ald. |
| 1634. Sir Thos. Blake, of Menlogh, baronet.
Nicholas Lynch, of Galway, alderman. | 1732. Thomas Staunton, esq.
(Alderman Thomas Staunton deceased.) |
| 1639. Sir Robert Lynch, of same, baronet.
Sir Valentine Blake, of Menlogh, baronet.
(Expelled 22nd June, 1642, for the Rebellion.) | 1735. Dominick Burke, esq.
1747. Rickard Fitz-Patrick, esq.
John Eyre, of Eyrecourt, esq.
(Rickard Fitz-Patrick mis-elected.) |
| 1661. Edward Eyre, esq.
John Eyre, of Eyrecourt. | 1761. John Eyre, esq.
Rickard Fitz-Patrick, esq. |
| 1689. Oliver Martin, esq.
John Kirwan, esq.
(Parliament of James II.) | 1767. Denis Daly, of Dunsandle, esq.
(Rickard Fitz-Patrick deceased.) |
| 1692. Sir Henry Bellasyse, knt.
Nehemiah Donnellan, esq. | 1768. James Daly, of Dunsandle, esq.
Robert French, of Monivea, esq. |
| 1695. Richard St. George, esq. of Kilrush, Co. Kilkenny.
Robert Ormsby, esq. | 1777. Robert French, esq.
Anthony Caly, of Callow, esq. |
| 1703. John Staunton, of Galway, esq.
Edward Eyre, esq. | 1776. Denis Bowes Daly, esq.
Anthony Daly, esq. |
| | 1783. The same.
(Anthony Daly, esq. in the room of Denis Daly, who made his election to serve for the Co. Galway.) |

1790. Rt. Hon. Denis Daly. room of his brother, the right hon.
 Sir Skeffington Smyth, bart. Denis Daly, deceased.)
 1799. St. George Daly, esq.
 1792. Rt. Hon. Sir Skeffington George Ponsonby, esq.
 Smyth, bart. (St. George Daly re-elected, having
 Peter Daly, esq. accepted the office of his majesty's
 prime serjeant at law. Sworn 23rd
 (Sworn 19th June, 1792, in the February, 1799.)

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

1804. Denis Bowes Daly, esq. 1814. Valentine Blake, of Menlo,
 esq.
 1805. James Daly, of Dunsandle, esq. (The hon. Frederick Ponsonby mis-
 elected.)
 1812. The Hon. Fred. Ponsonby. 1818. Valentine Blake, esq.



P. Duggan, delt.

Engraved for Hardiman's History of Galway.
COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, GALWAY.

I. Martyn, Scuplt., Dublin.



THE
HISTORY
OF
GALWAY.

PART III.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE TOWN TO THE PRESENT
TIME.

Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas.¹

THIS ancient and venerable edifice, which, for extent and architectural beauty, is inferior to very few ecclesiastical foundations in the kingdom, stands a lasting testimonial of the piety, wealth and public spirit of its foun-

1 The festival of St. Nicholas is celebrated on the 6th of December. He was a native of Myra, an archiepiscopal see, and the capital of Lycia, in Asia, of which he was elected archbishop. He died there A.D. 342; and the universal honour in which this holy man was held testifies his great merit and sanctity. He was particularly esteemed the protector of mariners, who never failed, on going to sea, to implore his mediation for a successful voyage; and he was also, from the innocence of his life, held to be the patron of children. A curious illustration of the life of this primitive saint is contained in Dr. Milner's excellent History of Winchester. In his life by Alban Butler, the following account of the translation of his relics to Italy is taken from Surius and others:—"Certain merchants of Bari, a seaport in the kingdom of Naples, situate on the Adriatic Gulf, sailed in three ships to the coast of Lycia, and, watching an

opportunity when no mahometans were near the place, went to the church in which the relics of St. Nicholas were kept, which stood in a desert place, three miles from the sea, and was guarded by a small community of monks. They broke open the marble coffin in which the sacred bones lay, and carried them off to their ships. The inhabitants, upon the alarm given, pursued them to the shore with horrible outcries; but the Europeans were got safe on board. They landed at Bari on the 9th May, 1087, and the sacred treasure was deposited by the archbishop in the church of St. Stephen. On the first day thirty persons were cured of various distempers; and from that time, the tomb of St. Nicholas of Bari has been famous for pilgrimages.—This enterprise could only be justified by the laws of a just war, joined with the apprehension of the sacrilegious impiety of the Mahometans."—Vol. XII.

The collegiate seal, above delineated, re-

ders, the former inhabitants of Galway. It is situate on a gentle eminence, nearly on the north-west extremity of the town, and contiguous to the river, on the site of a small chapel, which was the original and only place of worship belonging to the settlers, until, their wealth and affluence having increased with their industry and trade, they resolved to adorn the town by erecting a more superb structure for the service of the Deity. The present church was accordingly founded in 1320, and, on its completion, was solemnly dedicated to St. Nicholas of Myra, the tutelar saint of mariners, who was chosen as the patron of the town in consequence of its early and extensive commerce. The original foundation was gradually enlarged by the piety of individual benefactors, until, in course of time, it became one of the finest ecclesiastical structures in Ireland.

The town of Galway originally belonged to the diocess of Enachdune, an ancient bishoprick, united in 1324 to the archiepiscopal see of Tuam.² Since this union the church of St. Nicholas was governed by vicars, instituted by that see, who were commonly of Irish extraction, and, of course, entirely different from their English parishioners, as well in their principles as in their manners and common habits of life. In this state, discontents and jealousies between the clergy and their flock were inevitable. The latter constantly complained that their Irish pastors were generally prejudiced against them, as being of English origin, and that they invariably countenanced and abetted their own friends and kindred of the Irish race, by whom the town was on all sides surrounded, and with whom the town's-people were in a state of continual hostility. The affairs of religion being thus circumstanced within the town, Donatus O'Murray, who was elected archbishop of Tuam in 1458, at length interfered, and, in consideration, as is said, of an ample equivalent bestowed by the inhabitants, and annexed to the see, he of his own authority erected the church of St. Nicholas into a collegiate of exempt jurisdiction, by letters under his seal, dated the 28th September, 1484,³ and to it united the parish church of St. James of Balenclær (now Clare Galway). This act having obtained the sanction of pope Innocent VIII. by bull, dated the sixth of the Ides of February

presents St. Nicholas with his mitre, crozier, etc. At his right appear kneeling the three virgins whom he rescued from the danger of prostitution; and on a table at his left, the three purses of money with which he performed that signal act of charity. his seal is coeval with the wardenship.

2 This union affords as singular an instance of clerical rapacity as occurs in the ecclesiastical annals of Ireland. In Harris's valuable edition of Ware a detailed account of the entire transaction is given, which, after a careful examination by the author with the original records in Birmingham Tower, was found particularly just and accurate.

3 This interesting document (which will be found in the Appendix, No. I.), was supposed, for the last two centuries, to have been lost: it was, however, lately

found amongst a parcel of ancient MSS. by the author, who expects to have it, with several other original muniments concerning the church, restored for future preservation, amongst its archives. For the bull of Innocent VIII. confirming this act of the archbishop, see Appendix, No. II. Ware, mentioning the death of archbishop O'Murray, says "he died the 18th of January, as appears out of the Necrology, or book of mortality of the collegiate church of Galway, but the year is not mentioned."—From this passage it is probable that he had seen this book, the contents of which must have been highly interesting and curious; but it is supposed to be now lost, for, although the most diligent search was made by the author, he has not been able to discover any trace of it, except a few extracts among the Clarendon MS. f. 49.

following (as particularly detailed in a former part of this volume) the inhabitants, or rather the mayor and equals (*pares*) of the town immediately proceeded to the election of a warden and vicars, according to the powers with which they were so amply invested by these ecclesiastical dispensations.

The inhabitants of Galway, having thus succeeded, to the fullest extent of their wishes, in getting rid of an exterior, and establishing a domestic, nomination of the clergy, now began to direct their thoughts towards the endowment of the college and the improvement of the church. Dominick Lynch Fitz-John, one of the most opulent merchants of the town, who was mayor in 1486, and chiefly instrumental in promoting the original institution, was one of its principal benefactors. He made several additions to the church, and built a part of the college-house, or residence for the wardens and vicars, to whom in his will he also bequeathed several legacies.⁴ The union of exterior additional parishes, to extend the jurisdiction and increase the revenues of the college, was next attended to. On the 7th of August, 1486, William Joyes, archbishop of Tuam, and a native of the town,⁵ confirmed by his deed all the former grants and privileges of the collegiate church, warden and vicars;⁶ and he soon after united to the church the

4 The following interesting extract has been taken from his last will, written originally in Latin:—I, Dominick Lynche, merchant and burgess of the town of Galvie, in the diocese of Enachdune, being sick in body, but of sound mind, do make my will in the form following, within my house, on the 12th July, 1508, in presence of Maurice Y-Cemmanne, a skilful physician, who, at my request, wrote this my will, these persons being present, viz.: master Thomas Molga and the warden of the collegiate church of the town of Galvie aforesaid, master Walter Cussin, canon of the cathedral churches of Tuam and Enachdune, Cornelius M'Veoltall, Andrew Mares and Cornelius O'Cona, and many other witnesses.—Imprimis. I give my soul to the Almighty God and the blessed Virgin Mary, and the other heavenly saints, and my body to be interred in the aforesaid church, in the chapel of the blessed Mary, with my parents and wife, Anastatia Martyn.—Item, I institute my eldest son, Stephen (whose wife, in the same year, founded the monastery of St. Augustine on the hill), my heir and principal executor.—Item, I order the said Stephen to finish the new work begun by me in the church, and to build an altar, in honour of St. James the apostle, near the next column of the chapel of the blessed Mary aforesaid.—Item, I leave to two priests, daily praying for me, and the souls of my parents and wife (of whom one shall celebrate in the chapel of the blessed Mary, and the other at the aforesaid altar of St. James, and both of them in the choir, daily receiving victuals from the said college), the tenements which I purchased from John Slone O'Meolkallid, within the town, the house which I purchased from Edmund Blake, with its appurtenances, the

house which I purchased from Sabina Ymerywire, situate near the house of my brother, Peter Lynch, and all my lands and tenements in Athnary by me bought and possessed, as you will see in my book.—Item, I leave to every convent in Ireland 13s. 4d.—Item, to the convent of the monasteries of Galway £4.—Item, to the works of the chapel of the blessed Mary of the hill, in the west part of our town, £6, and to the poor in the poor-house of the families of our town, £1 13s. 4d.—Item, to the house of the lepers of Galway and Athnary, £1.—Item, for the repairs of our town £5, and for the repairs of the holy cross of our church £1.—Item, I leave to be divided amongst the poor £20.—Item, to the poor on the day of my death twenty linen scarfs, and to the college one silver cup, weight eight ounces.—Rot. Pat. 25 Henry VIII.

5 This and all the other grants, bulls and original documents mentioned in the following account of the church are now, amongst many others, in the possession of the author, who hopes to have them restored to its archives for future preservation.

6 Archbishop Shioy, or Joy, was advanced to the see of Tuam by provision from Rome on 17th May, 1485. He died 28th December, 1501, as appears by the collegiate book of obits.—Ware.—During this and the succeeding century, several natives of Galway became dignitaries of the Irish church. On 26th March, 1478, Walter Blake, who was educated at Oxford, obtained a provision from pope Sixtus IV. to the archbishoprick of Tuam; but the donation could not take effect, because Donat O'Murray was then living. He was afterwards appointed bishop of Clonmacnoise by Innocent VIII. in 1487. Christopher Bodekine, a native of Galway,

parishes of Furanmore, Moycullyne and Skryne.⁷ Notwithstanding these unions, the wardens and vicars were soon after obliged to petition the pope, complaining that certain persons had questioned the union of Skryne and Moygcullyne, although they had obtained possession of the vicarages, the yearly fruits, rents and profits whereof did not annually exceed fourteen marks, and they humbly prayed that his holiness would be, therefore, pleased to confirm the union; which by bull dated the 4th of the Nones of June, 1492, the pope accordingly approved of and confirmed. About the same time, Richard de Burgo, clerk of the diocese of Annaghdown, having obtained letters from the holy see respecting the rectory and vicarage of Furanmore and the vicarage of Meary, for the creation of a new canonry, and the erection of one of them into a prebend, the archbishop, by his letters, dated from Galway, 12th of November, 1492, expressly prohibited the judges, named in such apostolical letters, from proceeding in any manner in such erection. By these and similar means the possessions of the collegiate church were gradually extended and protected, until the wardens, at length, found themselves at the head of an extent of territory and population not inferior to some dioceses in the kingdom.

While the possessions of the college were thus rapidly increasing, the inhabitants of the town were not inattentive to their favourite building, the church. James Lynch Fitz-Stephen (who was mayor in 1493, and who had condemned and executed his only son for a rash and cruel murder, see p. 70), made many valuable additions to the church, and, in particular, presented the beautifully stained glass with which the eastern windows were adorned. John Lynch Fitz-Edmund, who was mayor the year following,

was appointed in 1536 archbishop of Tuam by Hen. VIII. In 1584 John Lynch Fitz-James was appointed bishop of Elphin by queen Elizabeth. He surrendered his see in 1611, but was charged with wasting its revenues: and it was said "that he lived a concealed, and died a public papist." He lies buried in St. Nicholas' church. On 24th May, 1532, Stephen Kerovan, of Galway, was translated from the bishoprick of Kilmacduach to that of Clonfert; and in 1602, Roland Linche, another native of Galway, was appointed his successor in Clonfert. This prelate was also charged with defrauding and injuring his successors, by alienating away the property of his church. In 1606, he made a lease of the entire lands of the bishoprick, consisting of twenty-eight denominations, to Robert Blake, for ninety-nine years, at £5 per annum.—Vide Harris's Ware.

⁷ The archbishop, by his letters, dated on the feast of the Conception, 1487, united the rectory and vicarage of the parochial church of Furanmore (Oranmore) and the vicarage of Meary, both in the diocese of Anaghdown, to the collegiate church, reserving annually out of Furanmore twenty-one ounces of silver money, and out of Meary seven ounces. By letters dated 12th April, 1488, he united the vicarage of the parish church of St. Mary of Rathuna (Rahoon), being

then vacant by the death of Donat-Y-Donaill, the last possessor thereof, and, on the 8th of June following, Theobald de Burgo, "chief of his nation," by his deed (reciting apostolical letters of the holy see, directed, at the instance of the warden and priests, to John de Burgo, canon of Anaghdown, concerning the union of the parish churches of Moygcullyne (Moycullen) and Rathune (Rahoon) in Gnobeg, to the collegiate church, in which it was directed that before the union the consent of the patron should be obtained), granted all his right of patronage to those rectories to the collegiate church in free and perpetual alms for ever, provided that the warden and vicars, and their successors, should continually pray for him, and for the souls of his predecessors and successors for ever. On the vigil of All Saints, in the same year, Cornelius O'Hallurayn, perpetual vicar of Moygcullyne, resigned his living to the archbishop of Tuam, for the purpose of completing its union to the collegiate church, and, on the 8th February, 1491, on the petition of the warden and vicars, the archbishop united to the collegiate the vicarage of the parish church of Skryne to his collation, then of full right belonging by the free resignation of John de Burgo, perpetual vicar thereof.—Orig. Deeds.

contributed a large sum towards finishing the college-house. Peter Lynch, burgess, erected in the church the chapel and altar of St. Katherine the Virgin; and by his will, dated 9th February, 1494, devised "his principal stone tenement in Galway, and ten acres of arable land in Athenry for ever, for the perpetual sustenance of one good and proper priest, who who should daily celebrate mass therein for the souls of himself, Ellen Blake, his wife, their ancestors, friends, and all the faithful departed."—Several similar instances of individual benevolence and devotion occur about this period, by which the possessions of the church were considerably augmented.⁸

The warden and vicars were not, however, permitted to enjoy their newly acquired possessions in peace, but were continually harassed by the surrounding diocesan clergy, who invariably contested the right of union of the several parishes, and gave the new incumbents every possible opposition. At length, in 1496, they were obliged to petition pope Alexander VI., stating that, although the several parishes were canonically united to the church of St. Nicholas, yet that Maurice O'Flaherty, clerke, laid claim to the vicarage of the parish church of Moycullen; that Roderick O'Kennewayn and Owen O'Flaherty claimed the vicarages of Kylcommyn and Kilrowan; and that Richard de Burgo and others claimed the rectories and vicarages of Furanmore and Meary; and they humbly prayed relief from his holiness. A bull accordingly issued to the bishop of Clonfert and David de Burgo, canon of the cathedral church of Clonfert, giving them full power to hear and determine between the parties. These commissioners met on the 17th of December, 1497, in the parish church of Ballynpatrik, in the diocese of Clonfert, and, after a solemn investigation, pronounced judgment of intrusion against the persons complained of, and others. These decisions, however decisive as they were in favour of the warden and vicars, did not entirely suppress their opponents, and they were again obliged to have recourse to the holy see. Another bull accordingly issued, dated the 7th of the Ides of January, 1501, directed to the archbishop of Tuam and others, empowering them to admonish "all those

⁸ The warden and clergy, finding themselves firmly established, and free from any ecclesiastical control, except that of Rome, at length resolved to dispute the power of the corporation to intermeddle with their affairs after the necessary business of election was over. The latter insisting on this right, the clergy appealed against their interference to the archbishop of Tuam, and several differences arose, which, had they not been speedily terminated, might have proved fatal to the college. A general meeting, however, of both parties took place in 1497, in the Town-hall, when the following rules and regulations were mutually agreed upon, viz.:—"In the honouring of Almighty God and the furtherance of his divine service, the mayor and counsaill being assembled together, with Sir Henry Brenegan, warden, and the rest of the colledge of this town, it was concented

and agreed—1. That the warden and vicars shall daily saye or singe in the quero the tyes or houres, as tercio, sexto and nono—2. That they shall live together continually.—3. That no preste nor vicar be found out of their chambers or colledge-house without lawfull business at night-time—4. That four boice should be assisting and helpinge to singe daily at the quere, especially at Mary-mass, at the ex-officio of the vicars and colledge—5. That the mayor and counsaill shall henceforth control, correct and punishe the wardens and vicars, without any complaint to be made by them or any of them to bishope or archbishope, save only to the mayor and counsaill—6. That the mayor and counsaill shall have the election of the warden yearly, and all prests and clerkes, or any man also to serve in the church or colledge."—Corp. Book A.

sons of iniquity " who had in any manner invaded the rights of the collegiate church, or usurped any of its possessions; and if they should not restore what they had taken, and desist for the future, then to pronounce against them the sentence of excommunication. This strong remedy seems to have had the desired effect, for it does not appear that any opposition was given to the college for several years after, with the single exception of its determined opponent, Richard de Burgo, the canon of Annaghdown, who, in 1502, petitioned the pope, claiming the right to the rectory of Ballinclaer, though it had been united to the collegiate church at the time of its original institution. A commission accordingly issued, directed to Florence O'Cannovan, to inquire concerning this alleged claim, who, after investigating the matter, decided against it. For some years after this decision the college enjoyed a respite from external opposition, which John Bermingham, warden in 1514, and Henry Brangan, warden in 1557,⁹ were successful in preventing, until the archbishop of Tuam united the vicarages of the parish churches of Kinlaghan and Srower to the wardenship, when two of the diocesan clergy, Meiler and Thomas Mac Shonyn, having laid claim to those livings, obtained letters from Rome allowing their claim, under which they received all the fruits, rents and profits of the vicarages. The warden and vicars, on their part, charged them with having obtained these letters surreptitiously, without stating the union which had been made; and having brought the question before the archbishop, he made his decree on 9th January, 1526, annulling the adverse claim, and confirming the previous union. This dispute was succeeded by another concerning the rectory and vicarage of Roscam, which had been shortly before united by the archbishop, but was claimed by Edmund de Burgo, archdeacon of Enachdune. On the petition of John O'Dermode, then warden, to cardinal Wolsey, a commission issued to the dean of Kilfenora to investigate this claim and determine between the parties, who, by his decree, dated the 5th of August, 1529, confirmed the title of the college; and thus terminated all further litigation concerning its exterior possessions.¹⁰

During the continuance of these disputes, the improvement of the church was carried on without intermission. John French, who was mayor in 1538,

⁹ In May, 1519, the celebrated Maurice de Portu, alias O'Fihely, a native of Cork, who in 1506 was appointed archbishop of Tuam by pope Julius II., landed in Galway from Italy. He was received in the town with the highest honors; but, being seized by a sudden illness, he died before he could celebrate his first mass (although certain indulgences were granted to all who should hear it), and was interred in the abbey of the Franciscans, to which order he belonged. He was a man highly esteemed by his contemporaries for his virtues and learning, and was called "Flos mundi," or "Flower of the world," for his many excellent endowments. His successor, Thomas O'Mullaly, or Lally, presided at a synod held in the town in 1523, at which were present the bishops of Kilmacduagh, Achonry, and several others. Ware supposes the decrees

of this synod were lost. Archbishop Lally died on 28th April, 1536, and was interred under the same tomb with his predecessor, Maurice de Portu.—Ware.

¹⁰ The morals of the vicars at this period may be ascertained from the following order of the corporation:—"1530, Enacted, that any preste or vicar of the colledge found with any fault or crime, to lose one hundred shillings and their benefice; and also if he or they keep any w—e, being with child or bearing him children, to pay the above penalty."—Corp. Book A.—It may, however, be necessary here to observe that this is the only imputation which occurs affecting the moral character of the clergy of this town, although many encomiums are extant celebrating the exemplary piety and virtue of their successors, to the present day.

made some very considerable additions to it, and, amongst others, erected the spacious wing extending from the north pinnacle to the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament. Soon after this, the first symptom of reformation appeared in the town. Lord deputy Grey having arrived, he seized and confiscated the ornaments of the church; and Sir William Brabazon, vice-treasurer of Ireland, in his "Account of Jewels, Ornaments, Crosses and Images Confiscated," returns "forty-five shillings, being the price of such articles seized at Galway, received from Leonard, late deputy of the King." This inadequate return would induce a supposition either that the confiscation in Galway was trifling, or that the embezzlement, with which the ill-fated deputy was afterwards charged, was considerable. However that may be, no farther inconvenience was sustained by the town on account of religion during the remainder of the reign of Henry VIII. In 1542, Christopher Bodkin, archbishop of Tuam,¹¹ at the request of the mayor and burgesses, in a provincial synod then held in the town, confirmed to the college all the benefices which it had justly and quietly possessed, and all other benefices which it theretofore held and which were afterwards occupied by any others, with all their rights and appurtenances: and here the force of native partiality in this archbishop, and his predecessor, William Joyes (who were both natives of the town), is remarkable, they being the only prelates who had confirmed the privileges of the collegiate church from the time of its original institution.¹²

The alarming changes daily making in the affairs of religion, and the indiscriminate seizure of all ecclesiastical property during the latter years of Henry VIII. had, for some time, rendered the clergy and people of Galway apprehensive for the safety of their collegiate church and property, and more particularly when they saw the three monastic foundations of the town dissolved, and their possessions seized into the king's hands. After long deliberation, therefore, they determined to yield to the pressure of the times,

11 Christopher Bodekine was consecrated bishop of Kilmacduach at Marseilles, in France, 4th November, 1533 or 1534. By the favor of Henry VIII. he was translated to the bishoprick of Tuam on the 15th of February, 1536, and, at the same time, held the see of Kilmacduach by dispensation. He died full of days at Tuam, in 1572, in the thirty-sixth year after his translation, and his body was conveyed to Galway, and there interred.—Ware.

12 In the year 1546, it was ordered in council, that the warden and vicars should not set any lands, tithes or other revenues of the college, for more than one year.—Corp. Book A.—Before this regulation they alienated several portions of the collegiate property for long terms. On 8th April, 1514, John Bermingham, then warden, together with the vicars, leased unto John Fernando, merchant, a tenement and garden looking towards the altar of St. Katherine in the church, and situate in the Fisher's-lane, between the tenement of Nicholas Calf on the east,

that wherein John Moilyn dwelt on the west, the town wall on the south, and the king's-way on the north, paying yearly 13s. 4d. and two capons, with their feathers, to the warden and vicars, and 6s. 8d. to the monastery of the friars minors of the town.—Orig. Deed. Even after the prohibition the same practice continued. On the 19th December, 1549, they granted unto Thomas Porte, mariner, and his heirs for ever, the tenement which lay between the houses of John O'Finaghdi and Nicholas Bollan on the west and north, and the king's street and the town wall on the east and south, at the yearly rent of 6s. 8d. and two capons.—Signed, Patrick Blake, warden, Patrick Kyrwan, Thomas Frynch, Edmund Flaherty, John Talman and John Brangan, vicars.—Id.—This by-law was revived in 1607, under the penalty of "expulsion of the transgressor out of the college-house and church as an unprofitable member, and also forfeiting 20l."—Corp. Book A.

and secure the safety of their religious establishment, by withdrawing their spiritual allegiance from the pope, and transferring it to the king. A petition to his majesty, expressive of this determination, was consequently prepared, but his death intervened before it could be presented. The appearance of affairs on the accession of Edward VI. not having lessened their apprehensions they persevered in their former resolution, and accordingly a memorial to the same effect (and particularly calculated to succeed in its object, by flattering the king's supremacy, and representing the livings as poor and deserted),¹³ from the mayor, bailiffs, co-burgesses and commonalty, was presented to the lord deputy St. Leger by Richard Blake Fitz-John, the agent employed on the occasion.¹⁴ The matter was referred by the deputy to the king and council; and, after two years' delay, the royal grant was obtained under the privy seal, and by authority of parliament, dated at Westminster the 29th April, 1551, whereby the king, as supreme head in all affairs of religion, changed the church of St. Nicholas into a collegiate, to be for ever after called "The Royal College of Galway"; and ordained Patrick Blake, merchant, one of the priests there, warden, and Patrick Kerewan, Thomas Frenche, Darby O'Hoysshynne, John Talman, Derby O'Rowane, John Dermoyte, John O'Brangan and Edward O'Flartie, vicars choral: the college to consist of a warden and eight vicars, who were to be a body corporate, and have perpetual succession, possess a common seal, and enact by-laws for its good government. The mayor, bailiffs, burgesses, and commonalty, and their successors for ever, were empowered to elect a warden yearly, and to remove, deprive and depose him and the vicars, and others in their places to constitute; and to chastise, correct and

13 This memorial stated the foundation of the collegiate church and its confirmation, as the custom then was, by the Roman bishop, and humbly prayed that it might be confirmed in its original state, with a warden and twelve vicars: that it should be governed by the mayor and co-burgesses, with exemption from the diocesan or any other ordinary jurisdiction: that they, as theretofore, in the king's name, might, out of the vicars, elect one warden every year, and the vicars at their presentation to be elected by the warden and co-vicars, and to be corrected, punished and removed, according to their merits and demerits, by the mayor, bailiffs and co-burgesses: that, for the augmentation of divine worship, and the more ample support of the warden and vicars, the rectory of the collegiate church, occupied under what right they knew not, by the monks and abbot of Collis Victorice, might be united to the college, with a perpetual union and confirmation of all the benefices, rights and appurtenances which ought to belong to it, particularly the vicarage and episcopal fourths, called the bishop's quarter, the deserted rectories and vicarages of Rahoon, Moycullen, Foranmore and Roscam, the small vicarages of Clare, Kilcomen, Meary and Skryne, and all their

other lands; and, finally, that the church of St. Nicholas should be changed into a collegiate by the royal authority, to be from thenceforth for ever after called the King's College of Galway. They further stated, that the sept of the O'Flaherties and other Irishry claimed a right to bury their dead in the church, under pretence whereof they often tumultuously entered the town, endangering the lives of the inhabitants, and destroying the place: they, therefore, also prayed his majesty to grant them, for this purpose, the churches and burial places outside the walls, belonging to the dissolved monasteries of St. Francis, St. Dominick and St. Augustine.—Orig. Transcript.

14 This agent, after "two years extraordinary labor and attention" in this business, demanded from the warden and vicars, according to agreement, three-fourths of the tithes of Kiltullagh; which they resisted, asserting, that he undertook to obtain the grant for "ten marks, which they paid him in good gold and cross groats."—They agreed to submit their differences to the archbishop of Tuam, the mayor of the town, and others, who, in the first place, ordered the parties to "be charitably inclined, and to pray for each other," and then awarded the tithes to Blake during his life.—Orig. MS.

punish them, as occasion should require. The rectories, vicarages, etc., mentioned in the memorial were for ever united to the college; and the cemeteries of the three dissolved monasteries were also granted for the purposes mentioned in the memorial.¹⁵—Such were the principal alterations made in the constitution of the collegiate church by Edward VI.; and under his charter, with some short interruptions, it has been governed to the present day.

An era having been thus formed in the church government of Galway, henceforth it will be necessary to consider the affairs of religion in a two-fold point of view, first as they relate to the Protestant, and next to the Catholic interest within the town. Although, by the grant just recited, the church of St. Nicholas was changed into a Protestant institution, yet the warden and vicars, for many years after, continued of the old religion, owing to the immediately succeeding Catholic reign of queen Mary, and the unsettled state of ecclesiastical affairs in Ireland during the first years of her successor. Soon after the accession of the former princess, the attention of her Irish rulers was directed towards the state of religion in Galway. Sir Patrick Blake, the warden nominated in the charter of Edward, was summoned to meet the queen's commissioners; but having neglected to attend, a peremptory order was issued to the mayor to apprehend and send him in safe custody within twenty days, with a denunciation of severe punishment in case of neglect. This measure had the desired effect: the warden attended; but, having satisfied the commissioners, he was dismissed by them, without suffering any further inconvenience.¹⁶

About this time many considerable additions were made to the church by Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Stephen, grandson of Dominick Lynch, whose munificence has already been recorded. Nicholas was mayor in 1554; and, having repaired the works formerly erected by his grandfather, he afterwards built the adjoining tower and south aisle, then called "Our Ladie's Chapel," but now better known by the name of Lynch's Aisle.—These were

15 Under this grant the wardens have ever since retained possession of these burial grounds, which they generally farmed out to undertakers, whose charges for interment were as follow:

	£	s	d
Chancel before any of the altars	1	6	0
Warden's ground adjoining	0	13	4
Body of the abbey	0	6	8
Without the precincts	0	2	8½
For any interment in the church of St. Nicholas, usually applied to the use of the parish	10	0	0

It is said that the following families only have privilege of burial in the church, viz.: the Lynches, D'Arcys, Brownes and Frenches: according to some the Kirwan family is also entitled; but, according to others, their claim has been always disputed.

16 The following was the mandate which issued to the mayor on this occasion:—

"Theass shalbe to requier you, and nevertheless in the quene's Maties name, straightly to charge and command your, as you will answer to the contrary at your extreme perill, that ye fail not to apprehend and take Sir Patrick Blake, prest, warden, or principall of the prests, and send him in slave custody to us, soe that he fail not to be with us and others, her highness' commissioners, at Termonfehy, within XXtie daies after ye receive these presents; with intimation that if ye do not execute your charg, as is aforesaid, the sargaunt at armes, to your fourther trouble, punishment and chardges, shall immediately be sent, to bring both you and him.—From Dublin this 26th of October.

Yor. friends,
Ardmachan.
Henry Draycott."

To our welbeloved frend,
the mayor of Galway,
Orig. MS.

the last improvements of any consequence made by the Catholics in the church during the remainder of this century.¹⁷

Upon the accession of queen Elizabeth, and the consequent alteration in religion, the Catholic clergy of the town foresaw that a change was not far distant, and they accordingly alienated and granted, in perpetuity, to their friends and 'kindred, the greatest part of the possessions of the college,¹⁸ insomuch that, when it was afterwards seized into the queen's hands, and transferred to the reformed clergy, they were found considerably reduced. The same apprehensions of change also prevented the wardens and vicars from paying the necessary attention to the exterior parishes, in consequence of which they were gradually usurped by the diocesan rectors.¹⁹ The church being at length surrendered to the established clergy, whatever remained unalienated of its former possessions were also delivered up; but, being found totally inadequate to their support, it became necessary for government to interfere, and uphold this infant foundation of the newly established faith by augmenting its means: accordingly, by letters patent, dated 20th September, 1578, the queen, in consideration that "the warden and vicars, and their successors, should continue together, and entertain a godly and learned preacher amongst them, from time to time, at their own charges," granted unto them the late dissolved monastery or priory of Annaghdown,²⁰ in the county of Galway, with all its temporal and spiritual

17 In this reign the right to the rectory or parsonage of the town became a subject of legal contention. It formerly belonged to the monastery of Collis Victoria, or Knockmoy, and, having been seized into the king's hands, was granted in farm to Edmund Lynch, who held it until one Richard Burke, clerk, having obtained letters of provision from the see of Rome, and also a confirmatory mandate from the queen and council of England, was put into possession by the mayor. Lynch, thereupon, complained to the chancellor against the mayor and merchants of the town, stating, that Burke had through fear absconded; and it appearing, moreover, that he was a provisor, and that the parsonage was not presentable, being appropriated to the monastery, as was certified by the archbishop of Tuam, and that the pretended letters from the queen and council were counterfeit, orders accordingly issued to the mayor to restore Lynch to his former possession.—Decree 3 and 4 Phil. and Mary.

18 One of these grants, from its meritorious import, deserves particular notice.—In 1556, Martin Lynch petitioned the warden and vicars, stating, that "he had begun a certayne work, in the worships and honour of Almighty God to harbour the poor and needy within this town, to uphold which he humbly supplicated a grant of three houses, situate in Shoemaker's-lane, worth ten shillings yearly; and they, 'perceiving the good and godly opinion of the said Martine, and also considering the meretorious great worke done by him upon the said poor man's house,

and his pure and sincere devotion, inclined their hearts to grant his petition."—Orig. Pet.

On 24th July, 1561, Sir Clement Skerrett, warden, together with the vicars, demised to James Lynch Fitz-Richard, merchant, the large parcel of land situate at the west, called Gortekevnyne, and extending round to Gortegany, at the east of the town, for twenty-one years, at four pence yearly rent. Andrew Gatty Lynch afterwards obtained a similar demise.—Orig. Deeds.

19 In 1568, the new warden and vicars petitioned the president and council of Connaught against John Boorke, then sheriff of Connaught, and against Walter and William Boorke Fitz-John Fitz-Moyler, who had wrongfully dispossessed them of the profits and fruits of the vicarages of Shrower. (Skryne,) in Tome and Kinelagh, to which they pretended title in right of Sir John M'William, priest, Dermot O'Rowan and John O'Donoghe. In consequence of this petition, an order was made that the collegiate clergy should be no longer interrupted or disturbed in the possession of these vicarages.—Orig. MS

20 The particulars of the grants were as follow:—"The late monastery or priory of Anaghduane, alias Enaghcoine, half an acre, with all the edifices, buildings, gardens and orchards within the same: six acres arable in Anaghduane: 2 cottages, 40 acres arable, 24 pasture and 12 wood and underwood in Lishduch, in O'Flahertie's country; 12 acres arable and 19 pasture in Sheankill and Muck-

possessions. They soon after obtained a similar grant of the monastery of Ballintubber, in the county of Mayo. In the same year several useful alterations were made in the church: the western windows were enlarged; and over one of them the date still remains engraven in stone. About the same time several other improvements were undertaken.²¹ In the mayoralty of James Lynch Fitz-Ambrose, in 1590, a belfry was erected, and a chime of new bells provided, under the superintendence of the mayor, but at the expense of the inhabitants and corporation.²²

Henceforth, in order to avoid confusion, the affairs of the collegiate church shall be distinctly noticed under two separate heads; first, those relating

nyes; 40 acres in Owre and 20 in Chockayne, all in the same country; a ruinous chapel and 12 acres in Oran, and 6s. 8d. chief rent out of Lisperdell, all the temporal possessions; and the rectory of Ballincourty and Clanrickard, with a moiety of the tythes and other spirituall profits in Ballinacourty, Ballinclohy, Owrane and Creganna, belonging to the said rectory (the other moiety thereof belonging to the bishop of Tuam and the vicar that serveth the cure); the rectorie of Killcunin, in O'Flahertie's country, with all the tithes (those due to the vicar excepted); and the rectories of Carigin and Lisduch, in the same being part of the spiritual possessions of the said late monastery, for fifty years, at the rent of £6 11s. 4d. yearly."—Notwithstanding these grants, the affairs of the collegiate clergy continued on the decline. In 1585, Sir Henry Burke, the warden, was arrested by order of the archbishop of Tuam, and detained in prison, "for fifteen marks due for small benefices." He petitioned Sir Nicholas Malbie, chief commissioner of Connaught, stating that the benefices were waste, and in a desert country, that the college was reduced to great poverty, and praying for redress; otherwise "that they should be obliged to sell such livings as they then had for their sustenance, and also for the support of many poor children whom they kept in the college."—Orig. MS.

21 1585, February 25th, in the inquiry alluded to, page 91, the following particulars occur concerning the church:—

1. "That the wardian and vicars of the quen's colladge in Gallway, tyme out of mynd, are seized in right of their said colladge of five-eighto partes of all the personall and preidiall tiethes cominge and growinge within the town, the liberties and franchises of the same.

2. "That all who have bene suspected to absteine them from church to here God's dyvyne service, accordinge to her majestie's proceedings, contrary to the proclamation that Mr. Maior did sett forth, that all those who have bene in towne, neglecting their due to God and the prince, be doeply fyned by Mr. Maior; and if any of them doe make any kynde of contempt, that all such be both fynished and punished according to their deserts. The names of the defaulters, the clerke and

sexten, who have chardge thereof, will deliver uppe; and whether any in this corporation do use any other service prohibited by God and her majestie's laws we are thereof ignorant.

3. "That the wardian, vicars and priests do use only God's divine service daylie, according to her majestie's injunctions, and do there minister sacraments and sacramentalls accordinglie.

4. "That John Linche, now lord bishop of Elphin, and in those days wardian of the colladge of Gallway, has of the colladge plate two cups or pices of silver in lending (viz., Margaret Athies pic parcell gilted, and a bastian pic all gilted), which he did put in pawn unto James Darsye, and wrongfullie doth detain from the said colladge.

5. "That it is expedient that the colladge do geve the first offer of all such ther tiethes as they will sell, to the freemen of the towne before any other; our meaninge is, because tharifficers, for a greate parte of the yeare, leave ther habitation and keape them from the towne, neither aunsweringe watch or warde, as should appertein, moche lesse to aplye ther handy-craft to ther owne and the comon wealthes no smale damadge.

6. "That in respect of ther good service, the clerke and sexten shall have ther ordinari allowed them upon the colladge boorde; and when the full number of nyne ministers be not in the colladge, that then the clerke shall have so moche money as cometh to the ninth portion; in consideration whereof he shall not onelie serve and reed the chapters, but also teache the priests' boyes to singe and play, over and besids his owne chardge for teacheing other youths."—Id.

22 In 1620 Ambrose Lynch, son and administrator of this mayor, complained to the chancellor against the corporation, "concerninge charges of works and making of bells, and other things, by the said James, in the tyme of his meralty, for the common utilitie and profit."—It appeared that the corporation had originally disputed these expenses, and that the matter was then submitted to arbitrators, who, on 20th September, 1592, awarded that "sundry of said workes were beneficial and necessarie for the utilitie of the commons and corporation, and that said James Linche should have of them £63."

to the Protestant, and next to the Catholic wardens and vicars of the town, of both of whom an uninterrupted succession has been ever since continued. Those of the established church had, since the Reformation, been elected under the charter of Edward VI.; and nothing remarkable appears to have occurred concerning them until after the troubles of 1641. A survey of the possessions of the college (of which an abstract is subjoined²³) was, shortly before that disastrous period, taken by lord Strafford; and in 1639 his lordship recommended John Hardinge, vice-provost of Trinity College, Dublin, to the mayor, to be elected warden. Upon this recommendation, the corporation, considering "the dilapidations and ruins of the college, and of the means and living thereunto belonging, as also the merit and integrity of the said John Hardinge, and his willingness to do good in that place, and to restore the college to a decent state and order for the service of God, to the credit and ornament of this town, and to the honour and memorie of the founders and benefactors thereof, for the better inhabling the said John in his so pious intentions, they accordingly agreed, pursuant to the powers contained in the grant of Edward VI. to elect him annually during his life, 'he demeaning himself well,' provided their so doing should not tend to the avoydance of the said grant, or the loss of any privilege contained therein."—Leaving doctor Hardinge, therefore, in possession of the wardenship, the reader will now return back a little to ascertain the state of the Catholic clergy in the town after the Reformation.

As the reformed warden and vicars were chosen under the grant of

—This sum not having been paid, the chancellor now ordered the corporation to pay it forthwith, with £40 interest for retaining it thirty years.—Orig. Decree.

23 Possessions of the College of St Nicholas, 1637.

Town and Liberties of Galway.

"In the west franchises a parcel of land, called Cappenaveagh, 40 acr. half a cartron, bounded on the south by the highway towards the sea.—In the east franchises Gortrahilla, 12 acr. lying between Doghusk on the east, and Cloga-linch on the west.—Gortniganny, alias Knockaneganny, 3 acr. lying between the Suckin on the north, and the king's highway on the south. The college is situated towards the church; is bounded on the east by Lombard-street, and is now in the possession of the warden and vicars.

Town and Liberties of Athenrye.

Gortnafaha, westward from Athenrye, 20 acr.; Gortnagustalle 6 acr.; Gortnaclognanna, in four parcells, 6 acr.; in Clownganna 1 acr.; Packrekeill, westward, 2 acr.; Fairig, Parkbegg, westward 2½ acr.; Gortfoyle Capple, eastward, 2 acr.; Floughvonyen, eastward, 2 acr.; Gortnecurtse, and a small meadow, eastward, 2acr.; Gortboy, northward, 8 acr.; Gortnelegan, Gortnefoyle, northward, 4acr.; Gortdavack, northward, containing a day and a half's ploughing; Rahin, northward, ½ acr.; Gortlough, southward, 1½ acr.; Gortboybegg, southward, 2 acr.; Gortnegessy, southward, 4 acr.; three stangs of land near Gortne-

gessy, a day and a half's ploughing; and Gortnecroughie, southward, 2 acr.

Kilcumen Parish.

A parcel of gleabe called Gortaglass, 6 acr.

Rahoon Parish.

Gortaglush 1 acr.; and in Dunkellin barony 5 acr. dispersed near the sea, called Ffossaghimore, within the commoners' lands, and belonging to the two parish churches of Balinacourt and Oranmore; in Killameene ¼acr.

Oranmore Parish.

Gortaglesh 3 acr. three houses and a garden-plot; in Roscam quarter, near the church, 3acr. called Gortsagard; and in Garra 2 acr. leased to Michael More Lynch, belonging to Ballinacourt church.

Clare Parish and Barony.

Acaranoulán, westward from the church of Clare, 1 acr.; 11 ridges in Gortnagoishy, N.E. from the church, one field or gort called Gortaglish, lying in the qr. of Common; and in Kilmoylan barony one gort, called Gortategart, 2 acr. in Croghbane qr.

[The above mentioned particulars (for so much) agree with the Strafford's survey taken of the clergy's lands in the parish, barony and county aforesaid, remaining of record in his majesty's surveyor-general's office.]

ANTHONY PETTY,

Dep. Surveyor-General."

Extracted A.D. 1689, per me, H. Browne, warden.—Orig. Copy.

Edward VI., so those of the Catholic persuasion were uniformly elected under the bull of pope Innocent VIII. This instrument, it will be recollected, vested the power of election in the mayor and bailiffs, or equals of the town, for ever. On the change of religion, when the corporation became vested in the members of the Protestant faith, the Catholic inhabitants still continued annually to assemble (but in a private manner, to avoid persecution), and regularly elected their own mayor, bailiffs, sheriffs, and other corporate officers. These were, however, but merely nominal officers; and they appear to have been continued solely for the purpose of preserving the succession of the Catholic wardens and vicars. This anomalous proceeding was soon questioned by the Catholic archbishops of Tuam, who claimed a controlling power when the corporation was changed, and they denied the competency of the self-formed body, styling itself a Catholic corporation, to act under the pope's authority. The town's-people, however, who at all times were particularly jealous of any encroachment on their ecclesiastical rights, invariably resisted the interference of the see of Tuam, which afterwards occasioned several disputes between them, as will appear in the sequel. In the year 1620 James Fallon was elected warden by the Catholic corporation, upon which he wrote to the archbishop, "that, though I am well satisfied of the particular privileges granted to the town, and that the confirmation does belong to the body of the colledge, still, to avoid scruples, I thought it very convenient, in person, to ask confirmation from your grace's vicar, which he would not grant unless he had a general petition from the town; but this they refused, for fear it would diminish in the least their privileges, and so go to the Protestant archbishop, and be lost." He then added: "*The people of this town are so stedfast in the matter, that, for all the clergy in Ireland, they would not lose one atom of their privileges.*"—The question terminated here for the present; but the warden and town's-people, to prevent similar claims for the future, procured in 1635 a confirmatory grant from the then pope, Urban VIII. This instrument, the then archbishop of Tuam asserted, was obtained surreptitiously, and immediately after, in 1637, he revived the claim, on the ground "that the wardenship was not exempt from the ordinary's visitation, or from paying him a synodicum." The warden, on the contrary, insisted "that his collegiate church was *ecclesia insignis collegiata et exempta ab ordinaria jurisdictione*"; but to this the archbishop replied "that he deceived himself by attributing to his own those privileges which he found to have been granted to collegiate churches, *habentis jurisdictionem episcopalem, vel quasi episcopalem*, of which his is not, *ut patet legenti ejus privilegia, quæ sunt restringenda et non amplianda.*"—These ecclesiastical disputes here ceased for awhile, but were renewed with greater warmth than ever after the restoration of the Catholic corporation in 1643.

In 1643 the Catholics possessed themselves of the church, and, on the 18th of June, "mass was solemnly sung therein, and a sermon preached by father John Kegan, of the society of Jesus, after a discontinuance thereof

ever since the suppression."²⁴ About this time a vacancy having occurred in the parish of Clare, the archbishop of Tuam refused to admit a priest presented by Walter Lynch, the warden, except on these conditions: 1st, that the archbishop should approve of him; 2nd, that he should be obedient to the provincial and diocesan synods and statutes; 3rd, that he should give no contradiction to the archbishop's visitation, correction, procuration, etc.; 4th, that he should give under his hand to be obedient to his lordship's sentence touching the controversy between them. These disagreements occasioned violent personal animosities between the contending ecclesiastics, who proceeded to excommunication on both sides. They at length agreed to submit to the final determination of the bishops of Elphin and Clonfert, the vicar apostolic of Kilmacduagh, Sir Lucas Dillon, knt., one of the supreme council, and Richard Martin, esq., mayor of the town, who finally succeeded in composing their differences.²⁵ The warden and vicars soon after obtained a grant from the corporation of three parts in eight of the tithes, both great and small, within the town, to "recompense them for the profits of their livings, expended since the troubles in repairing the church and college-house, and paying £40 yearly to one of their body for preaching every Sunday in the church."—Of their collegiate rights and privileges the clergy and inhabitants were always specially careful, but they were particularly so against any infringement of the see of Tuam. This feeling was forcibly evinced in 1648. when John Burke, the then archbishop, after his dispute with the nuncio (vide page 125), caused the church doors to be broken open; he was obliged on the following day to sign a declaration "that, by so doing, he did not intend to interfere with the liberties of the college."—The important changes, which soon afterwards took place, gave a respite to these clerical contentions; they were, however, resumed after

²⁴ On the 15th of August following "the first general procession took place after the reconciliation of St. Nicholas his church was made; and in the procession, among the mendicants, this order was observed: first went the Carmelites, then the Eremites of St. Augustine, then the Franciscans, then the Dominicans, with a salvo jure of the Franciscans and Augustinians."—Lib. A.

The magnificence of the church before the Reformation (which was partially revived at this period, may be estimated from the number of chapels and altars which it contained, and in almost the entire of which divine service was often celebrated at the same time—1. the high-altar of St. Nicholas, in the choir—2. the altar of Jesus Christ, in the chapel of Christ, judging at the right of the entrance to the choir—3. the altar of St. Michael, in the chapel of the Guardian Angels, between that of Christ and chapel of St. Mary Major—4. the altar of St. Mary Major, in the ancient chapel of the Lynches—5. the altar of the Blessed Mary, in the new and great chapel of the Blessed Mary, on the south wing of the

church, under the title of the Blessed Mary, Mother of God—6. the altar of St. James, at the south column of the church—7. the altar of St. Catherine, in her gilt chapel, opposite the altar of St. John the Baptist—8. the altar of St. John the Baptist, joined to the column of the pulpit—9. the altar of St. Bridget, at the north column—10. the altar of St. Martin, near the north gate—11. the altar of the Blessed Sacrament, in the altar dedicated to it, in the north part of the church—12. the altar of St. Anne, in her chapel, in the north wing of the church—13. the altar of St. Patrick, in his chapel, originally dedicated to him—14. the altar of the Holy Trinity in its chapel, at the right of the entrance to the choir, under the organ.—Old Map.

²⁵ The vicars then were: doctors Andrew Lynch and James Fallon, and fathers John Lynch, Patrick Lynch, Gregorie Skerrett, Henry Joyce, James Fallon and Connor Fallon, for the town; and fathers William Gormuilly, Thomas Lany, James Sheoy and Teige Davilly, for the out-parishes in controversy.

a lapse of many years, when the Catholic clergy re-appeared in the town, and were not finally concluded until the succeeding century.

During the usurpation of Cromwell, the Catholics were indiscriminately banished,²⁶ and the rights of the Protestant warden and vicars were totally disregarded. The church was also considerably injured by the soldiery, who converted the chapels and aisles into stables, and destroyed almost the entire of the ancient and venerable monuments, insomuch that at the Restoration it was found entirely in a state of dilapidation, and in total want of repair. Doctor James Vaughan was appointed warden for life by patent dated 23rd March, 1663. During his incumbency, which continued many years, nothing particularly worthy of observation occurred until the year 1682, when the diocesan clergy of Tuam laid claim to the *quarta pars*, or *quarter episcopals*,²⁷ for which they petitioned the lord lieutenant and council. This affair led to another which vitally concerned the rights of the college. John Vesey, the then archbishop, having prevailed on his clergy to drop their petition, undertook to obtain from government a grant in commendam of the wardenship of Galway after the death of Warden Vaughan, who was then considerably advanced in years, upon which the *quarta pars* was to be restored. That event having soon after taken place, king Charles II. accordingly, by letters under the privy signet, dated from Windsor the 30th of August, 1684, reciting that the wardenship was then void, and in his majesty's gift and disposal *jure pleno*, directed the duke of Ormond to pass letters patent for its perpetual union to the see of Tuam, securing, however, the *quarta pars* to the vicars of the respective parishes and their successors forever, they paying to the archbishop a proportional increase of proxy for such addition. The grant accordingly took place; but the clergy were disappointed in the expected restitution. The archbishop induced them to enter into a new treaty, and procured their consent that he should enjoy the *quarta pars* during his incumbency, which continued for thirty-four years after; and although he was often elected warden of Galway,

26 Even during the comparatively milder reign of Charles II. the Catholic clergy were severely persecuted. Of this an instance shall be given from an original document now before us:—In 1674, Gregory Constable, then mayor of Galway, informed the privy council that several of the popish clergy in the town, commanded by the late proclamation to depart the kingdom, were willing, in conformity thereto, to transport themselves in a ship then in the harbour, bound for France, but that one Lynch, the master or owner, would not undertake their freight under 40s. for each, which they pretended they were not able to raise, therefore the mayor prayed their excellencies directions. On consideration of the matter, it was resolved by the board, on 18th May, "that it was not fitting that his majesty should be at the expense of that or any other sum on that account"; and they ordered "that it should be signified to the mayor that the said persons at their perils should transport them-

selves; and that the mayor is to do his duty in seeing them transported accordingly." Jo. Davys

Orig MS.

27 The *quarta episcopalis pars* was originally that portion of tithe or oblations which, before the institution of parishes, was reserved to the bishop for his maintenance; the other three parts being employed for the support of the inferior clergy, the repairing of churches and sustenance of the poor. The Connacht bishops were much impoverished by the improvidence of their predecessors, who, from time to time, made fee farm and other long leases of their revenues, and their clergy were worse provided for than any other in the kingdom.—Ware.—Archbishop Singe, who succeeded in 1716, had an act of parliament passed the year after, divesting his see for ever of the *quarta pars*, and settling it on such of the clergy as should discharge the respective cures within the diocese of Tuam and Enachdune.—Stat. 4 Geo. I. ch. XIV.

the union was never esteemed valid, being entirely contrary to the charter so recently before granted to the corporation.²⁸

On the accession of James II. the Catholic clergy again assembled in the town,²⁹ and on the 29th March, 1688, the then corporation informed archbishop Vesey that his majesty had been pleased to grant them a charter containing, amongst other privileges, a power to elect a warden and eight vicars, and granting the rights and revenues belonging to the wardenship and college, and others in his grace's possession, which they requested he would forthwith order to be delivered to them, except the church and cemetery, during the pleasure of government.³⁰ On the 1st of August following, they proceeded, under the charter, to the election of the clergy, when father Henry Browne was chosen warden for that year; and fathers Henry Joice, Michael Lynch, James Fallon, John Bodkin, Jerome Martyn, Nicholas Nolan and Thomas Lynch were elected vicars. Doctor Vesey having resisted the claims of the corporation, they immediately resolved that all acts which gave or allowed him any right, title, interest or possession in and to the wardenship, by any way of election, reception, allowance, or otherwise, should be annulled and vacated. His grace having also retained the church, the newly-elected warden and vicars, in July, 1689, petitioned the king for leave to take possession of it, together with the college-house,

28 During these transactions several improvements were made in the church.—In 1683, the steeple, which commands an extensive prospect of the bay and surrounding country, was erected on arches over the centre of the building: two additional bells were at the same time provided, and two others were added in 1726, which increased the number to six. They are all remarkable for sweetness of sound, which some assert is caused by the contiguity of the church to the river. They bear the following inscriptions:—1. "Renved be Master James Linche, Mayor, and Hugh Butwall, first Fonder of thes bells, 1590, T.W."—2. "Domp Gaudefroy, de la rue, par la grace de Dieu, Abbe de St. Saulue, et Sr. de Caaron Waleis nonne pour servir at l'eglise du dict Caaron, 1631. Lovis Jongree nous at faict, 1631."—3. "At the Corporation Charge, Theodore Russell, Mayor, T.S. R.P. Ch. Wardens, 1684."—4. "This is at Corporation Charge, T.R. Mayor; Tho. Simcockes, Rich. Plummer, Ch. Wardens, 1684."—5. "At the Corporation Charge, Charles Gerry, Mayor, Tobias Covey, Founder, 1726."—6. "At the Corporation Charge, Charles Gerry, Mayor, T.C. 1726."

29 In February, 1687, the Catholic warden received a transcript of the following letter from doctor James Lynch, titular archbishop of Tuam:—"After our very hearty commendations, wee have received certain intelligence that the queen is quick with child, and, takeing into our serious consideration how much the peace, tranquility and welfare of these kingdoms depends upon his majesty having an heir male, wee doe think fit to

recommend it to your lordship to give directions to the secular priests and regulars within your diocese to offer up their prayers incessantly to the conservation of her fruit, and that it may please God to send her a prince of Wales, and that each of them say one masse every weeke to that intention until she be delivered; and so, not doubting of your lordship's ready compliance herein, wee bid your lordship very heartily farewell.—From his majesty's castle of Dublin, the 24th January 1687.

Your lordship's very loving friend,
Tyrconnell."

These prayers, it appears, had the desired effect for, on the 22nd of June following, lord Tyrconnell wrote to the warden to offer up public thanksgivings for the birth of the prince.—Orig. Letter.

30 He refused to comply with any of these requisitions, and filed a bill in the chancery side of the Exchequer, praying relief against their encroachments. By this it appears that the then possessions of the wardenship were: "the houses towns and lands of Cappaneveigh; the whole tithes, great and small, of the parish of St. Nicholas; three qrs. of the tithes, great and small, of the parishes of Oranmore and Clare; one quarter of the parish of Ballynacourte; three qrs of the parishes of Moycullen, Rahoon and Kilcummin; on qr. of the parishes of Skreen, in the county of Galway, and Shrule, in the county of Mayo."—It was also stated "that the quarta pars of all, except the parish of St. Nicholas, was the ancient revenue of the see of Tuam, and never enjoyed by the warden."—Orig. Bill, 7th Nov., 1688.

stating that the latter "was absolutely in ruin, and that the church was going fast to decay." This petition his majesty referred to the then judges of assize; but they not making any order on the subject, the warden again petitioned the king, stating "that, by the established law of the land, no Protestant minister or church-man had any right to the church or livings; that he was in the possession of the latter for the last two years; and that no divine service was then administered in the former, either by Protestant or Catholic," and praying "that he might be at liberty to make use of it." Before his majesty's answer could arrive, lord Clanricarde, the governor, anticipating that it would be favorable, delivered the possession of the church to the warden, who immediately took down all the pews, and commenced the necessary repairs. He enjoyed it, however, but for a short time; after the surrender of the town to General Ginckle, in 1691, it was again restored to the established clergy, and in their possession it has ever since remained.

Soon after the restoration of the church, archbishop Vesey petitioned parliament that the archiepiscopal see might be removed from Tuam to Galway; a change which, after some consideration, was accordingly resolved upon by a committee of the entire house, who further recommended that a cathedral and dwelling should be provided for his grace; that £2,000 should be raised to defray the expense, by a tax on the town and liberties, £500 whereof were to be appropriated for the purpose of repairing, building and beautifying the church. A bill, pursuant to these resolutions, was prepared, which, on 6th September, 1697, was referred to a committee; but, a petition against it having been in the meantime presented by the corporation, the bill was consequently rejected. This measure of doctor Vesey would, if successful, have been of considerable benefit both to the town and the see; and although the advantages which would attend such change are obvious, yet the subject has never since been revived by any of his successors. What further remains concerning the affairs of the church since that period will occupy but very few words. In 1726 an organ was erected, which cost the corporation £130. In 1734 the reverend Samuel Simcockes was elected warden in place of Henry Hart, deceased. The income of the wardenship was then estimated at £500 yearly, but it is now considerably more. The present possessions consist of the vicarage of the town, with the rectories and vicarages of Ballinacourty, Clare-Galway, Kilcommon, Moycullen, Oranmore, Ragoon and Shrueel. A church has been lately erected in Kilcommon; but there is neither church, glebe-house nor glebeland in any of the other out-parishes. The reverend James Daly, the present warden, is resident in the town, and has cure of souls of all these parishes. The duty is performed by him and two resident vicars. They are elected annually under the charter. The latter receive a stipend of £75 a year each, and are said to rank as king's chaplains. The warden has been always entitled to the tithes and emoluments of the parish of St. Nicholas,

and to three-fourths of the tithes of the other parishes.³¹ The right of presentation to the remaining fourth belongs to the see of Tuam in free disposal; but the warden and vicars claim an exemption from any other interference or jurisdiction of the archbishop except that of visitation.

This already protracted detail shall now be concluded with a brief description of the venerable building to which it relates, and which, without exaggeration, may be pronounced one of the most perfect and beautiful specimens of the simple Gothic or Norman architecture (by some called the pointed style) now remaining in this kingdom. The exterior of this ancient edifice, though evidently the work of different periods, is remarkable for uniformity in the execution, and for order and plan in the general design. Like most ecclesiastical edifices of the same style of architecture, it is built so as to resemble in shape the sacred emblem of our salvation; and within its ample walls, it has been ascertained, that upwards of five thousand persons might be conveniently accommodated at divine service. It extends in length, within, from the east end of the choir, along the nave, to the principal entrance at the west, 152 feet; in breadth, from north to south, including the transept, or cross aisle, 126 feet; in height, to the vaulted roof, 42 feet 10 inches. The side aisles are separated from the nave by two rows of Gothic pillars, with arches springing from them, which support the roofs. Each of these pillars is 8 feet 10 inches in circumference; 12 feet 10 inches from the base to the top of the architrave; and the chord of each arch measures 14 feet 6 inches. From the intersection of the aisles rises the square tower on which the steeple was erected in 1683, in a style of architecture no way corresponding with the rest of the building. The en-

³¹ These parishes are not contiguous. Their extent is computed to be 24 miles by 17. Ballinacourty lies in the barony of Dunkellyn, 6 miles S.S.E. from Galway, and is situate on the bay; Clare-Galway is distant 6½ N.E., and is situate on the river Clare; Kilcommon, in the barony of Moycullen, is 12½ N.W., and is situate on Lough Corrib; Moycullen, in the barony of the same name, 7 N.W.; Oranmore, in the barony of Dunkellen, 4 S.E.; Rahoon, in Moycullen, 3½ S.W., situate on the bay; and Shruel, in the barony of Kilmain, county of Mayo, 3¾ miles N. from Headford, situate on the Black River. Besides the income arising from these livings, which is supposed to average about £1,000 yearly, the warden is also in possession of 11 acres of glebe at Roscam, where the ruins of an old abbey are still to be seen; 17 acres at Royallen, both lying E. of the town; also of 40 acres at Cappanaveagh, towards the W. (where there is an ancient burial-place, but none interred in it for many years); 5 acres about the church of Ross; 10 acres at Kilmunmin and the college-house in the town; supposed to produce about

£254 yearly, over and above the fees for burial in the different cemeteries; where-out deducting the £150 yearly for the two vicars and abatements on the tithes, it is calculated that the income of the wardenship now averages, as above, about £1,000 yearly.

The taxes imposed at vestries vary in their annual amount. Of these the inhabitants to the east of the town pay considerably more than those on the west, comprehending Rahoon and the other out-parishes forming the wardenship, which are exempt on the payment of ¼d. an acre, under an ancient commutation. Besides the sum expended on the repairs of the church, the following yearly expenses are permanent, viz.:—Organist, £40; clerk, £34 2s. 6d.; sexton, £20; attendance on clock and chimes, £15; vestry-clerk, £11 7s. 6d.; chorister, £9; door-keeper, £2 5s. 6d.; sacramental bread and wine, £8; candles, £9; fuel, £8; founding expenses about £130; coffins for the interment of paupers, uncertain; constables for collecting the out-parishes, £8; incidentals uncertain. All which generally amount to about £350 annually.

trances and windows, which all display the pointed arch,³² were richly decorated with sculptured ornaments, containing many allegorical and ecclesiastical subjects, and exhibiting various traces of drapery, intermixed with fruit, trefoils, festoons, etc., in the same appropriate style, ingeniously designed and elegantly executed. Some few of these are still remaining, which escaped the ravages of time and the devastation of the fanatic crew by whom, as already detailed, almost every sacred monument in the church was destroyed; and it is here added with regret that what even these despoilers had spared were ultimately doomed to destruction by the ignorant alterations of modern churchwardens, under the specious name of repairs and improvements. Notwithstanding these interpolations, however, the interior of this spacious structure, taken from the western vestibule, and terminated by the lofty window in the choir (which, with those on the west, had formerly been embellished with beautifully stained glass), presents even still a view altogether worthy of its external appearance, and one capable of inspiring the mind with mingled sensations of awe and veneration. When, with this view, the spectator shall in his imagination combine the fourteen ornamented altars and chapels, already enumerated, with which the church had been once so brilliantly adorned, the monuments and numerous statues of saints and other holy men, amongst whom that of the patron, St. Nicholas, was eminently conspicuous,³³ a tolerably adequate idea may then be formed of the ancient splendour and magnificence of this stately edifice.

To proceed, however, to particulars, it will be necessary in the first place to notice the north or French's aisle. This compartment corresponds in height with the roof of the nave, but a portion of it and the adjoining transept is occupied by the organ-loft or gallery, erected in the last century, nearly parallel with the pulpit, but, as it must be confessed, with very little display of taste, either in the design, position, or execution.³⁴ Although

32 There are three entrances to the church:—1. the principal at the west front—2. a small but handsome arched gate-way leading to the north aisle—3. the south porch, so much admired for its curious architecture. This last is a perfect square of 11 feet 1 inch, and sustains the sexton's apartment, which is ascended by a flight of steps. It appears well worthy the notice of all persons that visit this church, being curiously groined, the ribs springing from the four corners, and uniting in the centre with uncommon beauty. It was built for the accommodation of the poor by James Lynch Fitz-Stephen, mayor in 1492, already celebrated for dooming his only son to death for perpetrating the horrid crime of murder, vide p. 73. There are eighteen principal windows to the church, viz. 1 over and 2 beside the high altar, 2 in the north transept, 2 in the south, 4 in the north aisle, 3 in the south, 3 in the west front (the central one facing the nave), and one in the old sacristy, or present vestry-room.

33 A few of these statues, elegantly sculptured in marble, were saved from the general wreck, and after a lapse of many years, were placed near the parish chapel, in Middle-street. They may be still seen in the south wall of the now collegiate chapel, all in perfect preservation, except the faces, which had been wantonly mutilated.

A very ancient circular baptismal font of black marble is still preserved in the church. It rests on an antique sculptured base, and is ornamented with Gothic work, trefoils, etc., amongst which the figure of an Irish wolf-dog appears engraved. It is placed nearly opposite the south porch.

34 On the north of French's aisle, a small passage leads to two modern additions to the church, which have been called, but without any apparent reason, Browne and Patrick's Aisles. The former is 24 feet long and 13 feet 6 inches broad; and the latter (also called Wyre's Aisle from some members of that family which lie interred in it) is of the same length, but only 11 feet 9 inches broad. The

the traces of antiquity throughout the church are less numerous than might be expected from the date of the building, there are, notwithstanding, a few handsome monuments and some inscriptions, which shall be noticed in order. In this aisle, on a black marble grave-stone, the following Irish names are legible:—"Wilielmus D'Muiln and Margaret U. Diguane"; on another, "Here lieth the Body of On Mor—ford, Shumaiker, and his wife, Juaninia Chlinge—who—1577"; and on another, curiously engraved, "Hir lieth the Bodi of On Moriertha O'Tiernagh, and his wife, Kate Rirnani-gonohid, and his brother, Teige Og—An' Dni 1580" ³⁵ Passing from the north to the south transept, Joyce's marble altar, placed in an arched recess, forming a curved square of 9 feet 10 inches, deserves notice. This recess was converted into a commodious pew some years since by the O'Hara family, to the memory of some of whom a handsome monument has been here erected.

On entering the south or Lynche's aisle, the polished marble altar and window of exquisite beauty, built by the founder of this extensive wing, and which now form its principal ornaments, will immediately attract attention. On both sides of this curious altar there are raised tombs, highly sculptured, belonging to various branches of this ancient family: one of these is the tomb of Nicholas Lynch Fitz-Stephen, by whom this aisle and the adjoining tower were erected.³⁶ A small marble tablet, inserted on one side of the altar, contains the following inscription commemorating one of his descendants:

Stirpe clarus, amor militum, terror inimicorum, aetate iuvenis, sener virtutibus, mundo non digno eraltur ad coelum, 14^o, Martii. Anno Domini 1644.—Stephanus Lynch.

Many other monuments and sepulchral inscriptions are interspersed throughout this aisle,³⁷ but the principal are to be seen in the choir, amongst

ancient sacristy (which serves at present for the vestry-room), on the left of the high altar, is a large and commodious apartment, and formerly served for the repository of the church plate, ornaments, etc., which were esteemed of considerable value.

³⁵ On a similar grave-stone, immediately adjoining:—Here lieth the Bodys of Richard Browne, and his wife, Cate Browne, their son, Mathew Browne, and his wife, Mary Terney, and their children. God rest their souls. Amen. 1635.

³⁶ This handsome tower, which is the principal ornament of the south end of the church, formerly contained a grand organ, and also a belfry, which usually rung for divine service, except on Sundays, when the great bell was solemnly tolled. The key of the entrance always remained with the founder and his family.

³⁷ A plain grave-stone near the opening of this aisle, contains the following inscription:—Here lieth the Body of Elisha Coles, Master of Arts and of the Languages, and late Master of the Free-school

of Galway, who died 20th day of December, Anno Domini 1680.

Elisha Coles was born in Northamptonshire, in England, and was educated at Oxford. He first became usher of Merchant Taylor's school, and was afterwards appointed master of Erasmus Smith's free-school in Galway. He wrote several useful books, particularly an English and Latin dictionary in 8vo.—Wood's A.O.—His name is scarcely legible on the flag that covers his remains.

On a small mural tablet, at some distance:—Near this place lies the Body of Henry Jolly, Lieutenant of Grenadiers in the Hon. General James Dormer's Regiment of Foot.

An elegant marble monument on the north side of the choir, contains the following inscription:—

Near this place are interred the remains of Edward Eyre, Esq., son of Giles Eyre, of Brickworth, near Salisbury, in Wiltshire, Esq., together with his wife, Jane Eyre, a virtuous, charitable, pious, and in all respects an exceedingly good woman.

which those belonging to the Eyre family are the most conspicuous. There are several spacious vaults in various parts of the church; but they are seldom opened, having been almost entirely abandoned, at the time of the Reformation, by the Catholic families, who resorted to the abbey of the Franciscans, where the ancient monuments are consequently more numerous; and though the cemetery attached to the church is extensive, it is said that none, even still, are interred in it but members of the established religion.

The ancient college-house, or former residence of the warden and vicars, is a spacious edifice, situate within fifty feet of the western extremity of the church. Some remains of antique sculpture are yet to be seen here, with the entrance of a subterranean passage (long since closed up) which led to the high altar in the choir. This house is now divided into several tenements, occupied by various families, who hold under the established warden; and with it this section shall be closed, in order to proceed to the consideration of the other religious establishments in the town.

Three sons and two daughters their children.

He was a thorough honest Englishman: which plain character bespeaks him eminently possessed of all good and virtuous qualities. He lived greatly beloved by all that knew him, and died, much lamented, on the 14th of April, 1683. In memory of so worthy a Father and Mother their dutiful son, Edward Eyre, of Gallway, Esq., has erected this Monument.

Here also lies Edward Eyre, Esqr., who erected this monument. He died ye. 5 of Nov., 1739- aged 76 yrs. He married Jane, the Daughter of Sir Wm. Maynard, of Walthamstow, in Essex, Bart. by whom he had 4 Sons and 5 Daughters. His Wife and 3 Daughters survived him. He left large Charity to build and Alms House, and to maintain 12 Poor for ever.

On another handsome monument, immediately adjoining the last, the inscription is as follows:—

Near this place rests, in full assurance of a blessed Resurrection, Jane Eyre, daughter of Sir William Maynard, Baronet, and Relict of Edward Eyre, late of Galway, Esqre. She was a loving and obedient Wife, a careful and indulgent Mother, Affable and courteous to her Acquaintance. Her piety, prudence, and well-disposed bounty to the poor, giving bread to the hungry, and cloathing the naked, made her a worthy example to her Sex. She took leave of this World on the 29 day of Decem. 1760, in the 88th year of her age, resigned herself cheerfully into the hands of her Redeemer, with a lively faith, a stedfast hope, and that charity which never fails to obtain an Inheritance among the Saints in light. Two Daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, survived her.

The Sum of £300 was given by the Widow Jane Eyre, to the Corporation of Galway, for the yearly Sum of £24, to

be distributed in Bread to 36 poor Objects, on every Sunday, for ever.

Near these is the following inscription on a black marble monument:—

Here is interred the Body of Robert Stannard, Lieutenant in the Honorable Colonel Roger Handasyde's Regiment of Foot. He was third Son of Robert Stannard, of the County of Corke. He was born at Wexford, and dyed here, of a malignant Fever, on the 10th day of Marche, in the yeare of our Lord 1720, in the 34 yeare of his age. He served his Country in Spain faithfully. He lived soberly, and dyed much lamented.

On a neat oval monument on the south side of the choir:—

Near this place lyeth the Body of Mrs. Elizabeth Tenison, Wife of Major William Tenison, who departed this Life June the 23. 1741. She was a woman of an exceeding good character in all respects of Life, and died much lamented by all her Acquaintance. Likewise his second wife, Ann Tenison, who was equal in character, and died, equally lamented, April 1st, 1744.

The inscription on the monument of the O'Hara family:—

Beneath lie the remains of Elizabeth O'Hara Wife of Geffrie O'Hara, Esqre. She was an English Woman; honest, sincere, charitable, a loving and obedient Wife, and, in every respect, a good example to her sex. She lived beloved, and died regretted, after a long and painful illness, on the 20th of July 1790 aged 62. Here also lieth Geffrie O'Hara, Esqre., formerly a Captain in the E. India Service, who, after many voyages, settled in Galway, the place of his birth; and died, much lamented, on the 25 April, 1795 aged 77. He was a good Seaman, an upright Magistrate, and an honest Man.

COLLEGIATE CHAPEL OF ST. NICHOLAS.

On the surrender of the town in 1691, the church was delivered up to the established clergy by John Bodkin Fitz-Andrew, who was then, and for many years after, Catholic warden.³⁸ The several chapels and altars, shortly before repaired and erected, were immediately broken down, and the interior was again fitted up for the administration of divine service according to the rites of the established religion. By the articles of capitulation it was stipulated that the Roman Catholic clergy and laity of Galway should be secured in the *private* exercise of their religion, and that the former should be also protected in the persons and goods. Upon that event the Catholic corporation secretly assembled and, with the concurrence of the warden and chapter, divided the town and suburbs into separate districts or distinct parishes³⁹; which division has continued with very little alteration to the present day. Warden Bodkin was succeeded by the reverend Edmund Lynch⁴⁰; and the persecutions against the Catholics raging violently during his wardenship, the scattered remnants of the collegiate property were collected and privately transmitted to France. Here they were converted into money, which was placed at interest; and the fund having in a few years considerably increased by donations and bequests, was applied to the purchase of an income in Paris, which was annually remitted to Galway, and divided amongst the warden and vicars for their support.¹ The sacred utensils and other church plate, then valued to be worth upwards of £500, were also conveyed to France, and deposited in the Irish college at Paris, where they remained until the period of the French Revolution, when they were seized and confiscated. During the incumbency of warden Lynch, and also of his successor, Patrick Skerrett

38 The reverend Henry Joyce, Catholic warden in the reign of Charles II., was succeeded by Mathew Lynch, who continued pastor for twenty-eight years. In the reign of James II. the reverend Henry Browne was elected in his place on which occasion none but those of "the 12 or 13 families" were allowed to vote. For some time after this period the mode of election was by writing the candidates' names on slips of paper; and this plan was adopted in consequence of the danger which attended meeting for the purpose, under the penal-laws. Warden Bodkin was born in 1653. He received holy orders at Madrid in 1676, from doctor James Lynch, Catholic archbishop of Tuam. He was a man of exemplary piety, and died in the odour of sanctity.—MS. Account. —Archbishop Lynch died in France in 1715. He bequeathed £25 a year towards the support of Galway students in Paris, where his bust was to be seen in St. Paul's church; and also a full-length portrait in the Irish college, painted in the ancient costume, with a long beard reaching down to his breast.

39 Viz.: the Quay-quarter, Tower-quar-

ter, Gate-quarter and East-suburbs; part of the parish of Oranmore in the east liberties; and part of the same in the county at large; Rahoon in the west liberties; that part of the parish of Clare-Galway in the east liberties; Kilcorky, part of the west liberties and suburbs; and part of the parish of Rahoon in the county of the town of Galway. After this division the warden presided over the "Quay-quarter," and the vicars officiated in the other districts; before this it is said they only acted as his coadjutors.

40 In his time the reverend Peter French, a native of Galway, who, for upwards of thirty years, was a celebrated missionary among the Indians of Mexico, returned to his native town. This apostolical character compiled a catechism or exposition of the Christian faith in the Mexican tongue, and converted multitudes from idolatry. He died in Galway in 1693.

1 Of this fund the warden received about £40 and each of the vicars about £25 annually, until the French Revolution, when it was confiscated, with all the other church property in that country.

Fitz-Michael,² the persecutions against the Catholics continued unabated.³ The Catholic corporation, or "lay-patrons," however, from time to time assembled and elected the wardens and vicars; but these persecuted persons were repeatedly arrested and imprisoned for attempting to perform their clerical duties, insomuch that they were often obliged to officiate in the dead of the night, and not unfrequently to steal, disguised in woman's apparel, to visit the sick and dying. These severities, however, gradually declined; and, about the years 1725, the warden and vicars fitted up a chapel in a warehouse belonging to Anthony Bodkin, merchant, situate in Middle-street, where they, for the first time since the surrender of the town, publicly officiated. In 1731, the severe penal visitation, already described (p. 174) took place, and the subjoined extract from the return made by the mayor on that occasion will give the reader some idea of the state of the Catholic clergy in the town at that period.⁴

² This warden received holy orders in 1679 at Salamanca, in Spain, from Peter Salazar, bishop of that place. Before his election to the wardenship, he officiated as pastor of the Gate-quarter and East-suburbs.

³ These persecutions commenced in the reign of William III. On 25th October, 1701, Francis Gwyn, then secretary of state, wrote to the mayor of Galway as follows:—"Sir, my lord lieutenant having received information that two friars, lately landed at Galway out of a French ship, arrived in that port, and that two post-days have since passed without any account thereof being sent from you, his excellency has commanded me to let you know he is not well pleased with your remissness in not advising him with the landing of any person at your port, contrary to the laws of this kingdom, and expects you will forthwith send up an account to me, if those two friars have been seized, according to act of parliament, and are in custody, and also what else has been done in that matter."—Orig. Letter.—Every reader is already acquainted with the severity of those laws during the reign of queen Anne. Immediately after the accession of her successor, the grand jury of the county of Galway, at an assizes commenced in the town on the 29th of March, 1715, represented to the lords justices "that great numbers of popish priests and friars, and other ecclesiasticks of the Romish persuasion had come into the kingdom within the last four years; that the friars settled themselves in the following places in the county, viz.: Kilconnell, and in another place near Portumna; as also in Tomona, near the abbey of Kinelehan; in Ross, near Headford; in Loughrea, in the abbey of Milick; and in Kilneschael, near the abbey of Athenry; that the great discouragement given, in the close of the last reign, by the men then in power, to such as were active in suppressing all friaries, and put-

ting the laws against popery in execution, contributed greatly to their settling in the country, in defiance of the laws: and they (the jury) humbly conceived that, after such discouragements, it would be of singular use, and greatly for the service of his majesty and the public, and encourage all persons in their several stations to contribute what in them lay to put the laws in to execution, if their excellencies commands were renewed to all magistrates, and others, so to do; and directions given to the military power to assist them upon all necessary occasion, the number of his majesty's Protestant subjects beings very few in comparison to those in opposition against them."—Orig. MS.—It is almost unnecessary to inform the reader, that the sentiments of the grand inquest of this respectable county, at the present day, are as different from the intolerant principles contained in this address as light is from darkness.

⁴ "They (the sheriffs) also gave me an account of a reputed popish chapel in Middle-street aforesaid, in which chapel there is an altar, a canopy, and some forms; and informed me that one Gregory French and Robert Skerrett, two popish priests, usually officiated therein; and another popish chapel in the same street, in a warehouse belonging to Anthony Bodkin, merchant, with some forms, and that one Patrick Bermingham, titular warden, and some other priests or friars, whose names I could not learn, officiate therein, and which said warehouse was converted into a chapel five or six years ago; and that one Patrick Skerrett, a registered popish priest, a very old man, officiates and says mass (as they heard) in his chambers in Skinner's-street; and that one Patrick Hoobane, an old registered priest, officiates and says mass in the parish of Rahoon, in the west suburbs of Galway; and that one Gregory French (but whether he is a priest or friar cannot learn) is said to officiate in the house

A short time previous to this event the reverend Patrick Bermingham, of the family of Barbersfort, in the county of Galway, a clergy man of profound learning and considerable talent, was elected warden, and was the only person not of the Galway names and families, already enumerated, who had been elected to that dignity for the preceding century. He, it is said, was chosen by the "tribes," or ancient families of the town, to pacify the natives, or inhabitants of other names, since called "non-tribes," who about that time began to complain that the former had wrongfully usurped to themselves the right of election and presentation of the clergy. Doctor Bermingham, soon after his election, was arrested by the mayor and thrown into prison on a charge of not having conformed to the regulations prescribed by law for popish priests; but, it appearing that he had regularly complied with those rules, he was released by order of government. During his incumbency the old disputes between the Archbishop of Tuam and the collegiate clergy, as to the jurisdiction of the former over the warden and vicars, were again revived, and proceedings were at length instituted in Rome between doctor Bernard O'Gara, the then archbishop, and the clergy and people of the town. On this occasion a commission issued; and Cornelius O'Keefe, titular bishop of Limerick, was delegated to proceed to Galway, and there to examine into the grounds of these differences. A compromise at length took place between both parties, and certain articles were agreed to, by which it was conceded, on the part of the clergy and people of Galway, that the archbishop of Tuam, for the time being, should have a right of triennial visitation *in capite et membris*; and also that appeals might be made, *in secunda instantia*, from the sentence of the warden to the archiepiscopal see. On the part of the latter it was granted that the right of election belonged to the lay-patrons; and, amongst other articles, which are subjoined,⁵ it was agreed that the warden

of widow Skerrett, lately deceased, in Lombard-street, near the lower barrack; and one Bodkin and one Banks (of whose Christian names I have not been informed, or whether priests or friars I am not informed) officiate in some of the said chapels or private houses. And they giving no account, but as aforesaid, and finding it not practicable, without examining on oath some of the popish inhabitants, to get an account of any other, or what mass-houses in the said town, or what number of priests officiate in each of the said mass-houses, or of the private popish chapels, or of the number of friars or nuns in each friary or nunnery respectively, I cannot be particular therein.—Com. Jour. Vol. III. p. 170.

5 "Consentiunt Clerus Populusque Galviensis:

1. Quod Archiepiscopus pro tempore Tuamensis habeat quolibet triennio jus eos visitandi in capite, et in membris.

2. Quod appellationes in secunda instantia, et à sententia Wardiani, ad tribunal Archiepiscopi ascendant.

E contrà verò Archiepiscopus Tuamensis, dummodò ei reservetur jus visitationis in capite, et in membris, et cognitio causarum in secunda instantia cedit cæteris privilegiis, quæ sibi competere prætendunt dictus Clerus populusque Galviensis.

1. Scilicet, quod jus electionis Wardiani protempore spectet ad patronos laicos, et jus instituendi saluum maneat penès vicarios collegiatos wardiani à patronis laicis præsentati et vice versâ.

2. Quod Wardianus, seu Custos, polleat jurisdictione ordinariâ in clerum, et populum sui territorii, nimirum ut possit suspendere, interdicere, excommunicare, et pro confessionibus populi approbationem, et jurisdictionem dare clero tum sæculari tum regulari, eo modo, quo Suffraganei Episcopi utuntur in suis diæcesibus respectu subditorum.

3. Ut Wardianus possit concedere literas dimissoriales subditis sui Wardianatûs, et ut virtute suæ ordinariæ jurisdictionis cognoscat de causis matrimonialibus, habeatque sibi directas facultates, con-

should be thenceforth elected every third year, in consequence of the many inconveniences which attended their annual election. This agreement was approved of and confirmed by the bull of Clement XII. dated 21st April, 1733, and under it the affairs of religion in the Catholic wardenship of Galway have ever since been regulated.

Warden Bermingham died in 1747, universally regretted. He was succeeded by the reverend Hyacinth Bodkin, a pious and learned divine, who survived but a short time, having died in the year 1749. On his death the reverend Marcus Kirwan, of Dalgan, was elected; but this gentleman having given some dissatisfaction to the lay-patrons, the reverend Anthony Blake, of Dunmacreena (who was afterwards titular archbishop of Armagh and Catholic primate of Ireland), was elected in his place: and this, it is said, was the only instance in which any of the wardens had been dispossessed since the Reformation. Doctor Blake erected the parish chapel in Middle-street about 1752, and was succeeded in 1755 by Francis Kirwan, who filled the chair with honour to himself and benefit to the town until his death, which happened in June, 1770; when the reverend John Joyes, of Oxford, in the county of Mayo, was elected. This gentleman continued warden until February, 1783, when he departed this life, leaving behind him the reputation of a good and pious pastor, always zealous in the cause of religion, and particularly so in the reproof of public vice and immorality. He was succeeded by the reverend Augustine Kirwan,⁶ a divine possessed of every virtue which adorns the clerical character, and whose piety, meekness, and unceasing benevolence will be long remembered. Amongst many other praiseworthy acts, he established a subscription fund, and founded a school for the instruction and clothing of indigent boys, in which numerous poor children are still carefully taught the rudiments of education and the

cedi solitas Suffraganeis Episcopis, dispensandi in gradibus prohibitis, tum affinitatis, quoties tales casus occurrunt.

4. Ut Wardiani jurisdictio extendatur ad regulares et moniales sui territorii eodem modo quo episcoporum potestas, quodque semper consulatur in receptione puellarum, et per se, vel per delegatum examinet earum vocationem, ac earum professioni, tanquam auctoritatem habens, interesse possit, et valeat.

5. Ut ipse Wardianus solus cum consilio sui capituli vigilet super ecclesias annexas ecclesiæ collegiatæ, in ipsisque nominet et instituat partores, qui curam agant animarum independentes à quovis alio, ipsique rationem reddant de eorum administratione in dictis ecclesiis, et correctiini subdantur.

6. Ut Wardianus in futurum sit eligibilis ad triennium, ob nimis gravia incommoda, quæ hucusque provenerunt, et provenire timentur ex annuali electione Wardiani.—Vide De Burg. Hib. Dom. p. 442.

6 This excellent warden was born in August, 1725. He received the minor or-

ders, sub-deaconship and deaconship, in August and September, 1747, from doctor Joseph Sancho Granado, bishop of Salamanca, in Spain, and was afterwards ordained priest the 23rd of December, the same year, by doctor Peter Gonzalez, bishop of Arilia. He died at the age of 67, and a handsome marble monument was erected to his memory in the parish chapel, containing the following inscription, from the pen of the late venerable doctor Gahan, O.S.A., of Dublin:—



“To the memory of the very reverend Augustine Kirwan, D.D., Warden of Galway, Vicar of St. Nicholas, who, on the 7th August, 1791, closed a life of 67 years, whereof 40 and more were spent in the apostolical labours of the Church of Christ.—Of gentle manners, unaffected piety, unbounded benevolence. The father and friend of the poor. Founder of the Charity School. By all beloved when living; now dead, by all regretted.—As a tribute of affection this monument is erected by his Nephew, N. French, in the year 1796.”

principles of religion and morality. Since the establishment of this valuable institution to the present time, thousands have by its means been rescued from the paths of idleness and vice, and become useful members of society. Warden Kirwan also instituted Sunday vespers and evening lecture and prayers in the collegiate chapel; and, after many other laudable regulations, this exemplary man departed this life, amidst the tears of the community, on the 7th of August, 1791.

At this time the situation of the Catholics of Ireland was very different from what it had been at any former period since the reign of James II. The day of persecution had now passed away, and this meritorious, though long suffering, body at length found themselves under the protection of the laws, and in the enjoyment of the public and undisturbed exercise of their religion. Immediately on the decease of warden Kirwan, the principal Catholics of Galway, composed entirely of the ancient names and families, assembled for the purpose of new-modelling the ancient Catholic corporation;⁷ after which they proceeded to the election of a warden in the room of their late venerable pastor. On this occasion there were two candidates for the wardenship, the reverend Patrick Kirwan and the reverend John Joyes, nephew of the former warden of that name, and, after a severe contest, the latter was chosen by a large majority.⁸ During these proceedings, the old disputes between the "tribes" and "non-tribes," which had lain dormant for upwards of half a century, were revived with considerable animosity.⁹

7 The resolutions entered into upon this occasion were as follow:—

"At a very numerous meeting of the descendants of the ancient Roman Catholic Corporation, convened by Thomas Joyce and Walter Joyce, sheriffs of the town of Galway, for the time being, held at the parish chapel of said town, on Wednesday, the 17th day of Augst, 1791.

Resolved unanimously,

That Gregory French, esq., shall be mayor, John Kirwan-Anthony and Walter Joyce-Thomas sheriffs, James Morris-Patrick recorder, and John Lynch-Alexander town-clerk, until the 1st day of August next.

That an election for officers shall be held at the parish chapel every succeeding 1st day of Augst for ever.

That no more than twenty gentlemen shall be admitted to the freedom of this corporation; and the freedom shall not descend to their posterity.

That no person whatsoever shall be admitted to the freedom of this corporation without the appearance of twenty-one of the Galway names, inclusive of the officers of this corporation.

That the elections for freemen to be admitted into this corporation shall be by ballot, and not by viva voce election; and that no person, or persons, shall be admitted to the freedom of this corporation without a majority of two-thirds of such meeting.

That so person whatsoever shall be admitted to the freedom of this corporation until he shall have first paid one guinea to the support of the charity-school of this town; or, if that charitable institution should cease, to such other charity as the warden and vicars, for the time being shall think proper.

That every candidate for the freedom of the corporation shall be proposed and seconded by one of the council-men of this corporation, and no other; and that no candidate shall be admitted or ballotted for until the succeeding meeting.

That the council shall meet the first Monday in every month for ever.

Gregory Anthony French, Mayor."

(followed by 40 other signatures.)

8 Forty-four of the lay-patrons voted for the reverend Patrick Kirwan, and upwards of a hundred (mostly non-residents) for doctor Joyes, who was accordingly declared duly elected. On this occasion several of the "non-tribes" attended, and protested against "the illegal proceedings of a number of people calling themselves the thirteen tribes of Galway."—MS.

9 Tho process of electing, presenting and instituting the Catholic clergy of Galway by the lay-patrons, under the bull of Innocent VIII., is usually as follows:—On the demise of a warden or vicar, or previous to the triennial choice of the former, notice of an election to fill the vacancy or continue the pastor is publicly

The reader has already seen that by the many revolutionary changes which had taken place since the Reformation, the Catholic inhabitants of Galway lost all their former municipal privileges, except that of the election of their wardens and vicars, which the descendants of the principal ancient names and families contrived, amidst every vicissitude, to preserve inviolate amongst themselves, to the exclusion of all the other natives of the town, even those of their own persuasion. During the last century, however, many respectable individuals of the latter class having become resident in the town, they, in course of time, became discontented, and at length importunate to be admitted to vote at the elections of those clergy whom they contributed so amply to support. This claim, which was strenuously urged on the decease of warden Kirwan, was as forcibly resisted by the others;¹⁰ but, as a matter of favour, they proposed to concede the privilege to such of the opposite party as they themselves should approve of, and as.

given at the time of divine service in the chapel, by order of the sheriffs of the Catholic corporation. At the time appointed the electors assemble at the collegiate chapel, and the business is opened by the sheriffs. The clergyman intended to succeed (who himself seldom appears on the occasion) is then put in nomination, generally by the most respectable of his friends, and if no other be proposed, he is of course duly elected; but, in the case of a contest, which not unfrequently occurs, the candidates are proposed and seconded by their respective friends as fit and proper persons to fill the vacant situation of warden or vicar, as the case may be, and a poll is accordingly demanded and proceeded on. On this occasion none but members of the fourteen ancient names and families, or "tribes," are permitted to vote (excepting only such of the other inhabitants as have been admitted to the freedom of the Catholic corporation); and whether the former are, or ever were, resident or not in the town is immaterial, their suffrages being deemed equally legal. The votes, however, are cautiously examined; and, amongst other points of disqualification, illegitimacy in the elector, or any of his ancestors, is esteemed a sufficient ground for rejection. On the close of the poll, the sheriffs declare the candidate who appears to have the majority of the votes duly elected, and the proceedings are accordingly entered in the council-book of the corporation. The next step that remains is the presentation of the person elected: that of a warden is made to the vicars for institution, and that of a vicar to the warden for induction, which, if no legal impediment interferes, generally follows; and, in the case of a warden, a brief of the entire proceeding is finally transmitted to Rome, to be ratified by the Pope.

Form of a Warden's presentation, to which that of a Vicar is nearly similar.
To the reverend Roman Catholic vicars of

the R.C. collegiate church of St. Nicholas, in the town of Galway.

A vacancy having occurred by the death of the late very reverend warden, V.B. for the office of warden to officiate in the collegiate church of St. Nicholas, in Galway, we, the R.C. mayor, bailiffs and peers of the R.C. corporation of laypatrons of the said R.C. collegiate church of St. Nicholas, in said town of Galway, in pursuance of public notice thereof, being assembled in the parish chapel, have unanimously elected the reverend E.F. to fill the office of warden of the said R.C. collegiate church of St. Nicholas, in the said town of Galway, and all its out-parishes annexed thereto, for the succeeding three years, to be computed from the first day of August; and we do hereby present the said reverend E.F. to your reverences for institution.

[Signed by the mayor, recorder, bailiffs or sheriffs, town-clerk, and some of the most respectable peers (pares, or equals, supposed to mean freemen or common council-men), for the time being, of the Catholic corporation.]

10. Immediately after the decease of warden Kirwan in 1791, the non-tribes, pursuant to public advertisement, assembled at the tholsel and formed a Catholic corporation of their own. Walter Burke was nominated mayor, James Murke recorder, Walter Flaherty and Robert Power sheriffs, and John E. Burke town-clerk. They then gave notice that they would, on 10th September, 1791, in the parish chapel, proceed to the election of a warden in place of the deceased; on which day, being denied admittance there, they proceeded to the Augustinian chapel, and the reverend Denis Mannion, one of the vicars, was elected warden, and the reverend Andrew Kenny, vicar in his place; but these gentlemen, not considering the proceedings valid without the sanction of the holy see, declined the honours thus conferred on them. The non-

under such terms, would accept of it, by admitting them free of the Catholic corporation. A few individuals, who had acceded for the purpose of conciliation, were accordingly admitted; but the proffered boon was indignantly rejected by the remainder, who formed the great majority of the inhabitants of the town. A schism from the newly elected warden was accordingly the consequence. The disappointed party, acting with more precipitancy than judgment, proceeded to the election of a pastor of their own. They finally appealed to Rome, claiming the privilege as a right, and not seeking it as a favour; and, in the meantime the town became a scene of spiritual anarchy and confusion. A counter petition was soon after transmitted, and the question was at length heard before the congregation *De propaganda fide*, who decided (with a reservation, however, of appeal), in favour of the ancient names and families, or lay-patrons, by a decree, which received the sanction of pope Pius VI. on the 17th June, 1792.¹¹ Warden Joyes was soon after re-elected; and although this de-

tribes then cautioned the vicars against instituting the clergy elected by their opponents, concluding with these words:—"We charge your consciences, as we shall yourselves at a superior tribunal, to account for instituting any person not properly qualified or legally chosen."—They then transmitted a petition to Rome, and, on the 25th September following, again assembled in the Augustinian chapel and resolved—"That the bull of 1484, which was originally intended by Innocent VIII. for the general benefit, peace, harmony and unity at all times of the citizens of Galway, was shamefully perverted by the party stiling themselves the 13 tribes (and the clergy of their appointment), the remnant of a decayed colony.—That as the parish chapel has been on two different occasions shut against us, both by the clergy and thirteen names, we will in future attend prayers at some other of the Galway chapels.—That the conduct of the clergy of said chapel on this occasion has been insidious, petulant and partial, and that they have not, in any one instance, evinced a desire of causing a reconciliation between the parishioners on just, equal and honourable terms; but, on the contrary, openly countenanced the usurped claim of the thirteen names to the exclusive privilege of election, in violation of the express words, intent and meaning of the bull of 1484, which ought to be the rule of their conduct, without prejudice or partiality to either party.—That as the said thirteen names assume the exclusive privilege of electing the Galway clergy, it is but reasonable also they should take on them the burthen of their support; and, on our part, we pledge ourselves to each other most solemnly, that we will not directly or indirectly, contribute any longer towards the support of the clergy of their appointment, particularly by withholding from them marriage-plate and

christening money, remembrances, Christmas and Easter dues, and all other dues whatsoever; and that we will not deal with any parishioner who may act contrary to these resolutions, until our rights relative to the election of the Galway clergy are finally ascertained, and this illiberal cause of contention removed.

Signed, by order of the parishioners,
John Burke Edmund, Sec.

—Printed Resolutions."

Several other meetings were afterwards held, and the irritable feelings and declarations on both sides were very violent. A deputation of the non-tribes waited on the archbishop of Tuam, doctor Egan, offering to surrender the collegiate rights. This prelate, though he at first declined the proposal, afterwards, it is said, secretly favoured the proceedings, and promoted their cause at Rome with all his influence.

11 This decree was of the following tenor:—D. D. Cardinales, etc., censuerunt manutenedos esse in possessione juris praesentandi ad dictum wardianatum et vicarias, suriorem, praepositum seu majorem, ballivos et pares ejusdem civitatis, juxta expressum tenorem supradictarum literarum apostolicarum Innocentii P. P. VIII. et juxta morem hactenus servari solitum; atque hinc propterea Rev. D. Joannem Joyes confirmandum esse in munere, quo fungitur, wardiani, usque ad finem triennii a die suae electionis computandi, quo elapso committatur R. P. D. Gerardo Teahan, Episcopo Kerriensi, tamquam delegato ab apostolica S. Sede, ut se opportuno tempore conferat Galviam, cum novus wardianus erit praesentandus vel praesens confirmandus, juxta solitum morem, et praesit conventui, qui ad hunc effectum haberi solet ab iis, qui in possessione sunt juris praesentandi, dissidia tollat, etc., ad wardianatum autem, ac vicarias praedictas eminentissimi D. D. decre-

cision has been ever since acquiesced in, it was at the time asserted, on the part of the appellants, that they would have succeeded, had not the court of Rome, alarmed at the then revolutionary proceedings in France, been inclined to discountenance any measure which had the smallest appearance of popular innovation. The subject has, however, been a source of uneasiness ever since to several conscientious members of the chapter, who, considering the great revolution wrought by time, and the alteration of circumstances since the original institution of the collegiate church, have represented that such a change has been effected in the nature of the patronage of its clergy as to render its canonical validity doubtful; but they, at the same time, admit that, although usage or prescription, since the suppression of the Catholic corporation, forms the only tenable foundation

verunt praesentari posse quemcumque clericum Galviensem dummodo sit idoneus quamvis non recenseatur in album familiarum, quae ballivi et pares vocarunt; ac praeterea utrique parti reservarunt potestatem proferendi jura sua in petitori, etc.

In August, 1794, doctor Teahan repaired to Galway for the purposes mentioned in this decree, but the lay-patrons protested against the promulgation of his commission, "1. Because we consider the said commission to be a fraudulent fabrication of interested persons.—2. Because we are persuaded that its promulgation will disturb that peace and harmony which happily subsists in this town."—Orig. Protest.—This proceeding, however, was afterwards complained of by the non-tribes as an attempt to resist the spiritual authority of the pope.

The congregation at Rome, finding that no appeal had been lodged under their decree, pronounced another on 11th May, 1795, to the following effect:—"Eemi patres consueverunt remanendum esse in decisis ab hac S. C., etc., partes autem cum jura sua nondum protulerint, praefigendum esse iidem peremptorium unius anni terminum ab hac die incipiendi a praedicta jura deducenda; et interim, per eorum provisionis, in Wardianum R. Joannem Joyes esse confirmandum, prout confirmant in munere wardianatus, quo fungitur, ad beneplacitum ejusdem S. Congregationis ac S. Sedis."—This decree was afterwards confirmed by the pope; and having been published on 28th July following by the warden and vicars in the parish chapel, the lay-patrons immediately protested against that part of it which declared that the warden was confirmed during the pleasure of the sacred congregation (the words "holy see" were omitted), and, on 1st August, re-elected warden Joyes; but the chapter refused to institute him, assigning as their reason "that the warden having been previously appointed by the holy see at will, they could not institute him, there being no

vacancy." Upon this the Catholic corporation again assembled, and "solemnly" protested against this refusal, and the reason given for it, as illegal and unjust to a high degree."—Orig. MS.

The question to be decided was whether the Catholic corporation, composed of the descendants of the fourteen ancient names and families, were exclusively entitled, under the bull of Innocent VIII., to the right of electing and presenting the wardens and vicars, or whether that privilege did not equally belong to all the Catholic citizens or inhabitants of the town without distinction? The principal arguments adduced in this curious case by both parties were briefly as follow:—In support of the exclusive right it was contended that the ancestors of the fourteen families, who were emphatically stiled Anglo-Galvienses, or English families of Galway, were the original founders of the town and church; that they had richly endowed the latter, and for valuable consideration (which it is said now constitutes the greatest part of the revenues of the Protestant archbishop of Tuam), acquired the domestic nomination of their clergy, which they transmitted to their posterity; every one of whom, it was asserted, had as legal a right to this privilege as any individual to his hereditary estate. That, although the original memorial to Innocent VIII. purported to have been that of all the parishioners, yet the pope, knowing the evils attendant on popular elections, confined the right solely to the mayor, bailiffs and equals, or freemen and council of the town. That this ancient privilege was preserved and handed down through various persecutions, pure, inviolate and (until lately) uncontroverted, by means of the Catholic corporation; and that it was absurd and unreasonable in the highest degree that "new men" and modern families, not members of that body, but who had come to reside in the town ages after its formation, should intrude themselves, or claim a participation of those spiritual rights and privileges which had been ob-

on which the right at present rests, yet any material change in the usual and ordinary manner of exercising it can only be effected by the interposition of the supreme ecclesiastical power and the sanction of the holy see, in order to render it valid and canonical. This opinion, however, which militated so forcibly against the exclusive privileges of the lay-patrons, neither coincided with their wishes nor met their approbation, although it has been confidently asserted that the vicars, and even the warden of the town, during the contest in 1792, had been unanimously of opinion, that some modification and arrangement in the constitution and exercise of this patronage had become highly necessary for the interest of religion in Galway.

tained by the ancient families, then the only inhabitants of the town, which were solemnly confirmed by the special grace and letters of the apostolic see, and afterwards peaceably enjoyed for upwards of three hundred years, and to which their descendants, whether resident or not, were equally entitled, having been born citizens, or pares (equals) of the town, and not elected or admitted free as other strangers, but, when of age, assuming their places and exercising their rights as members *de jure* of the corporation. That since the time of its original institution, the Catholic corporation had invariably admitted persons of other names and families to their freedom *speciali gratia*, although no instance appears on record of any such extension to any person of the fourteen families of the town, which clearly demonstrated that the right was inherent in them, not as individuals, but as members of one corporate body. That even by the canon law the founders and maintainers of churches, such as these ancient families had been of the church of St. Nicholas, were exclusively entitled to the nomination of their clergy, all which clearly evinced their real, true and undoubted title to those rights, which they prized more particularly as an honourable testimony of their attachment to the faith of their forefathers, and of their devotion and obedience to the holy see. That no power on earth could deprive them of this privilege, until it should be proved that they had abused it; and that, therefore, considering their conscientious exercise of the trust reposed in them, by keeping the church constantly filled with pious, learned and virtuous clergy, not one of whom, for upwards of three hundred years, was or could be charged with any breach either of doctrine or morals, they relied that they ought not to be disturbed, but rather confirmed in the possession of an ancient invested right, which they and their ancestors had been in the undisturbed exercise and enjoyment of for so many centuries.

On the part of the "non-tribes" it was objected that, so far from the "tribes" or fourteen families having been, as as-

serted, the founders of Galway, the town had, in fact, originally belonged to the old family of De Burgo, by whom it was principally built, and to whom it was chiefly indebted for its original increase and improvement. That intervals of many years had elapsed between the different periods of settlement in the town of these several names and families, who were almost entirely the descendants of Anglo-Norman adventurers in Ireland; and that, in particular, some of the had never been resident, or even heard of, in the town when the collegiate church was established, *viz.*: the Darcy's, Brownes, etc., although they were now ranked amongst the families to whom it was pretended the exclusive privilege of electing its clergy, etc. had been granted. That this right had been at first acquired by all (*universorum*), and not a part of the inhabitants of the town, who afterwards unanimously petitioned the pope to confirm their acquisition, which was accordingly done, under the general denomination of mayor, bailiffs and equals, meaning all the citizens, common council-men and free-men of the town. That the bull made no mention of these fourteen families, or of any family, tribe, or name, or any other description of persons whatever; but, on the contrary, the various letters of the holy see concerning the collegiate church testified against any such exclusive claim; and even the last of these, in 1733, particularly recognised the right of the inhabitants in general, under the name of "*Clerus populusque Galvie*," "the clergy and people of Galway." That for nearly two centuries next after the institution, as appeared by the original corporation books of the town, the patronage was exercised by the mayor, sheriffs and freemen, or burgesses, as a privilege annexed to their corporate body, to which every inhabitant was eligible, and never was pretended to as a right inherent in any particular class of the citizens. That the fourteen confederated families had, therefore, after the political extinction of the old Catholic corporation, monopolized these privileges, and that afterwards, to give a colour to their usurpation, they formed themselves

The dissensions already detailed having excited the attention of the then titular archbishop of Tuam, they suggested to that able and vigilant prelate a project never until then thought of, and, consequently, at the time totally unexpected: this was nothing less than the total abolition of the collegiate rights and the annexation of the wardenship to the archiepiscopal see, to accomplish which every exertion was made at Rome; but, through the successful endeavours and advocacy of the reverend Valentine Bodkin, agent of the lay-patrons, and afterwards of the town, this bold and unprecedented attempt of the archbishop was frustrated. In the meantime, the amiable and conciliatory demeanour of warden Joyes by degrees reconciled matters within the town; and the angry feelings of jealousy and discontent, which had proceeded to considerable lengths amongst several of the inhabitants, gradually subsided. On the decease of this worthy man, in 1805, the reverend Valentine Bodkin, before alluded to, was elected warden.¹² During his incumbency he promoted the establishment

into a self-created body, and assumed the name of a corporation for no other purpose than to keep the patronage of the church amongst themselves for the benefit of individuals of their own names and families. That it was unjust in the highest degree for those persons so to do, to the exclusion of all the other inhabitants, whose ancestors had settled (and many of them, viz.: the Burkes, Butlers, Colemans, Fallons, Nolans, Quins, Tullys, etc., at a very early period) in the town, with their families and properties, where they have ever since for many generations remained—a circumstance which ought to have entitled them at least to the common rights of naturalisation. That the descendants of the fourteen families, from a long habit of thinking their title just, at length became convinced that it was so, and finally grew so confident as to declare that while an individual belonging to them, or any of their names, existed in the town, or elsewhere, the title to elect and present the clergy of the collegiate church would remain, to the exclusion of all other pretenders. That they at length went so far as to assert that even the name gave in itself a sufficient title; and finally carried the absurdity to such a length as to reject pious, learned and exemplary clergymen as unfit to be either wardens or vicars without any other possible objection but that they were of different names from the fourteen families, who had resolved “that the name of a stranger should not appear on the face of their books.” That under these circumstances it followed that any individual of these self-privileged names, wheresoever born, bred or actually resident, if he appeared in Galway at the time of the election of the clergy, was allowed a right of franchise by virtue of his name, although he might be a total stranger in the town, and might never have contributed to maintain the clergy, in whose conduct, carriage or behaviour he had not the smallest interest; while the

rank, fortune, length of residence and reputation of the other inhabitants were totally disregarded, who were therefore obliged to become silent spectators, while a few resident voters and a majority of aliens appointed those very clergy whom they, though excluded, principally contributed to support. It was then represented that though the number of the non-resident patrons, as they were called, was indefinite, yet that the resident voters had for a great many years been rapidly declining in number and respectability, while the excluded resident inhabitants had increased in like proportion: and it was finally represented that this abuse and perversion of the original grant had commenced in times of turbulence and persecution, when the other inhabitants were obliged (through necessity and to avoid attracting the notice of persecutors), to permit the rights of the entire body to be exercised by a few individuals, who secretly assembled to elect the clergy, by which means those persons seemed to have acquired a quasi prescriptive right which they (the non-tribes) therefore humbly besought the holy see to abolish, and to restore the collegiate church to its original purity.

The author having thus far faithfully endeavoured to collect the arguments adduced by these contending parties, without being conscious of partiality to either he shall not here presume to draw any conclusion; that he leaves to others; but cannot, however, conclude without expressing a hope that, should the question be ever again revived, the feelings of party prejudice may never preponderate to the injury of religion.

¹² This accomplished scholar and excellent divine had resided in Italy from an early age until about the period of the French Revolution, when he returned to Galway, and officiated as one of the vicars of the town, to which office he had been

of an orphan asylum, for the maintenance, clothing and education of destitute female children. The lay-patrons having soon after resolved not to elect any of the then vicars (who were mostly of non-tribe families) to succeed him as warden, he, at their desire, procured a dispensation from Rome to render eligible three regulars of the town, viz., the reverend John Fallon and the reverend Charles and Edmund Ffrench, two brothers, all of the Dominican order.¹³ The latter gentleman was accordingly chosen vicar, and afterwards, on the death of doctor Bodkin, in 1812, was elected to the dignity of warden, a circumstance which occasioned fresh troubles in the town. The other vicars loudly protested against this election, charging the lay-patrons with partiality and injustice. A disunion was accordingly the consequence; the chapter declared the proceedings invalid, refused to confer institution on the newly-elected warden, and finally appealed to the pope, complaining against the innovation of a regular intruding on a secular chapter. Many of the most respectable inhabitants also murmured at these proceedings, the effects of which are not yet entirely over. The election, however, was afterwards, on the 18th June, 1813, confirmed by the pope; and the piety, zeal, and exertions of warden Ffrench, since his accession to the wardenship, justly entitle him to the respect and esteem in which he is so generally held. To his anxiety for the promotion of religious education, and the improvement of public morals, the town is principally indebted for the establishment of that valuable institution, the presentation convent; and the superb collegiate chapel, now erecting, which may be said to have been hitherto raised by his single exertions, will long remain a splendid monument of his zeal for the interests of religion.¹⁴

elected during his absence. He possessed a highly cultivated mind, manners the most refined and elegant, was well acquainted with all the modern languages, and deeply skilled in every branch of human learning. Being descended from one of the oldest and most respectable families of the town, and united to the remainder by ties of kindred and the warmest feelings of friendship and affection, doctor Bodkin, while in Italy, acted as the strenuous and indefatigable advocate of their collegiate influence, and was chiefly instrumental in bringing the litigation already detailed to a favourable issue.

13 The first of these three gentlemen, though a "non-tribe" by name, sprung from an ancient Galway family, one of whom was Catholic warden in 1620. The two latter, besides being descended from one of the fourteen families, were also recommended by a circumstance rather singular in its nature: Their father, the reverend Edmund Ffrench, had been for many years warden of the established church; he also served the office of mayor in 1774; and his name appears signed, amongst others, to the intolerant "black petition" against the Catholics in 1761. Both his sons, however, when very young, became converts to the Catholic faith, and

afterwards friars of the Franciscan order. The youngest having been elected, as above, in the place of doctor Bodkin, thus became Catholic warden in the same town in which his father had been for so many years Protestant warden: and that he may long so continue, with honour to himself and benefit to the community, is the sincere wish of the author.

14 The foundation of the new collegiate chapel of St. Nicholas was laid on 1st July, 1816 (being the old anniversary of the battle of the Boyne), by Hyacinth Daly, esq., mayor of the town. This memorable day presented a sight in Galway which forcibly evinced the increasing liberality of the times, and which was as grateful to every liberal, patriotic and enlightened mind as it was novel and unprecedented in the annals of the country—the head of a Protestant corporation laying the foundation of a Catholic chapel, in a town where, within the memory of many persons yet living, a Catholic would be liable to prosecution for daring to avow the principles of his religion. The following account of this transaction is abstracted from the public prints of the day:—"On the 1st of July, 1816, the first stone was laid in the foundation of a new parish chapel, on the site where the old one

To conclude—the Catholic warden of Galway (who has been sometimes described by the term *quasi episcopus*) is a prelate chosen triennially by the lay-patrons of the town, who exercise episcopal jurisdiction over an extensive district and population in the capital of the province, but subject to the triennial visitation of the metropolitan of Tuam, who is generally obliged, however, to conclude the business of visitation within a limited time. His institution by the chapter or vicars confers on him all the necessary faculties in ordinary for this jurisdiction: of course, what the confirmation of the holy see confers on a bishop elect, or nearly so, is conferred on him by such institution. He possesses a visitatorial power over all religious foundations within the limits of the wardenship; has privilege of sending two students to the Royal College of St. Patrick, Maynooth; is intitled to a chair and vote in synod, with mitre, crozier, and pontificals, as other prelates: but he cannot administer the sacrament of confirmation, confer orders, or consecrate the sacred unction. A vicar of the collegiate church (who is also elected by the lay-patrons, but for life) is of different signification from what is commonly understood by that name, the vicarage being, in fact, a canonry or prebend in a collegiate chapter. The reverend gentlemen at present composing this venerable body are inferior to none in the kingdom for piety, learning, and zeal in the arduous discharge of their sacred duties.

Franciscan Friary.

The power of the De Burgos having been firmly established in Connaught, about the close of the thirteenth century, by the favourable issue of their long and sanguinary contests with the native Irish, Galway became (as there had been before occasion to mention) the chief residence of this powerful family, and, consequently, the principal object of its protection and improvement. In 1296, Sir William de Burgh, surnamed *Liagh*, or the grey, founded this monastery for Franciscan friars, outside the north gate of the town, as particularly detailed in the obituary of the friary,¹⁵ and the dedi-

stood, in Middle-street, in this town. About one o'clock the popular Roman Catholic warden (the very reverend doctor Ffrench) and the other Catholic clergy of the town, attired in the sacerdotal habits, assembled at the old county court-house, which is now temporarily converted into a parish chapel. They were there met by Hyacinth Daly, esq., our respected mayor, attended by the sheriffs and other magistrates and officers of the corporation, clothed in their official costume, and bearing the insignia of their municipal character, together with a great concourse comprising almost the entire body of the respectable gentry of Galway. This collected assemblage moved from the court-house in regular procession, preceded by a band of music, through High-street, Shop-street, and Abbey-gate-street, to where the new chapel is to stand. There the usual form was gone through of laying the first stone, which was deposited by the mayor, in front of whose house the

populace lighted in the evening an amazingly large bonfire."

This extensive structure not being yet (1820) entirely finished, the author regrets that he cannot include a description of it in this work. The style of architecture, however, which is that of the ornamented Gothic, reflects credit on the ingenuity and taste of the builder, Mr. Cusack, and the entire edifice, when completed, will prove a considerable ornament to the town and be one of the most spacious and elegant Catholic chapels in the kingdom.

¹⁵ War. MS. Vol. Lodge, Vol. 2, Appendix; but, according to the annals of the town, this friary was founded in 1280. The obituary above alluded to is supposed to be lost. In the Clarendon MS. 46, f. 41, there were preserved extracts "*Ex necrologia conventus fratrum minorum Galvie*," which, if still existing, are thought to be the only remains (with what little has been here collected) of that ancient registry.

cation took place on the 16th of May. The founder died 12th Feb., 1324, and was here interred. Several other particulars concerning this monastery for the two centuries succeeding this period were collected from various sources by Allemande, Archdall, and others, which are here subjoined.¹⁶ In addition to these, the following have been gleaned for this work :

1538. John French, who was mayor in this year, erected the great chapel on the south side of the abbey, and also the stone building which stood on arches over the river, to the west of the pinnacle, afterwards called "John French's Chamber."

1570. March 9th, Queen Elizabeth granted part of the possession of this monastery (then lately dissolved¹⁷) to the corporation and their successors, which grant was renewed on 1st September, 1578, for forty years.

1603. February 11th, James I. granted the entire possessions of this house to Sir George Carew, his heirs and assigns for ever.

1611. Valentine Blake Fitz-Walter Fitz-Thomas, who was mayor this year, built the chapel on the south side of the choir, wherein he and his family were interred. This chapel was afterwards converted into a sacristy.

1626. April 16th, died Murrough *na more* O'Flaherty, of Bunowen Castle, and by his directions in his last will, was interred amongst his ancestors in this abbey.

1642. Richard Martin, of Dungorie, who was this year mayor of the town, bestowed £800 to build two chapels, one in this abbey, and the other in the church of St. Nicholas.

1643. June 25th (Sunday), mass was solemnly sung in this abbey for the

16 1381. In this year pope Urban empowered the guardian of this friary to excommunicate every person within the province of Connaught who should adhere to the anti-pope, Clement VII.—Allemande.—1460, Jan. 26th, died William, son of Meyler the great, who bequeathed to this convent half a marc yearly, to be paid on the feast of St. Brigid.—Lib. Obit, King, p. 312.—1494, the friars of this house obtained a licence from pope Alexander VI. to annex to the friary the Chapel of Our Lady, then adjoining one of the gates of the town.—Allemande.—1494, April 29th, died Edward Philibyn, who built the dormitory of this monastery.—Ware MS. Vol. 34.—1502, March 13th, died Thady Walter de Burgh, head of his sept.—King, p. 312.—1503, Sept. 30th died Walter de Burgh, the son of John.—Id.—1509, July 7th, died Rickard Walter de Burgh.—Id.—1513, Feb. 23rd, Edmund de Burgh, the son of Rickard, and head of his sept, was treacherously murdered by his nephews.—Id.—In the month of May this year, Maurice de Portu, alias O'Fehealy, archbishop of Tuam, was interred in this friary, on the south side of the choir. The humble monument under which he lies is yet shewn here.—Id. and Lib. Obit.—1520,

William de Burgh granted to this house the fishery of the river of Galway.—King p. 312.—1521, Sept. 29th, died the lord Edmund de Burgh, son of William and grandson of Edmund. The friars of this house received great emoluments by his funeral obsequies.—Lib. Obit.—1523, March 25th, died Andrew Lynche Fitz-Stephen, who bequeathed a perpetual anniversary to the monastery.—Id.—1534, Oct 27th, died Ulick Burgh, the son of Edmund and grandson of Richard.—Id.—1536, April 28th, died Thomas O'Mullaghy, archbishop of Tuam. He was interred in the same sepulchre with his predecessor, Maurice.—King, p. 312, and Ware Bps.—Provincial chapters of the Franciscan order were held in the years 1470, 1522, and 1562.—Vide Monast. Hib. p. 286-7.

17. Viz.: twelve gardens containing 3 acres; two parts of a water-mill upon the river; the ninth part of the tithes of two acres of land, commonly called Gortcall, near the town; a salmon every Wednesday out of the great weare, and three every Saturday out of the high weare, and one every Saturday out of the hawl-net; and as many eels as should be taken one day in every week out of the twenty eel-weares on the river.—Rot. Pat.

first time since its suppression; after which a sermon was preached by father Valentine Brown, guardian. Several improvements were then made in the abbey, and, amongst others, the tomb of the founder was repaired and beautified.

1652. The friars of this house were banished,¹⁸ and the monuments and ornamental works of the abbey were defaced by Cromwell's soldiery. The superb marble tomb of Sir Peter French, knt., which was richly gilt and adorned with sculptures, was entirely destroyed; part of the polished marble was converted by governor Stubbers into chimney-pieces, and the remainder sent to England and disposed of at a considerable price.¹⁹

1657. All the buildings of the abbey demolished, except the church, in which the courts of justice were held.

1685. Disputes arose between the warden and vicars of St. Nicholas's church and the friars of this abbey, concerning the right of precedency to attend at funerals, and the emoluments thence arising,²⁰ which being brought before the congregation of the cardinal's interpreters of the council of Trent, they, on the 15th Nov. this year, determined that "the right belonged to the parish priest."

1689. The friars took possession of the church, in which they made several repairs and improvements,²¹ but were soon after dispossessed.

1698. The several members of this and the other religious orders of the

18 Of the friars of this convent the three following are particularly mentioned by Harris.—1: Stephen Lynch, or Stephanus a Galvia, of the college of Rome. He wrote "Promptuarium Scotisticum," which, being left unfinished, one Varesio, an Italian, of the convent of St. Francis de Ripa, at Rome, completed and published it, in two tomes, Romae, folio.—2. Francis Bermingham, or Franciscus a Galvia. He taught philosophy at Milan, from whence he went to Rome, and was jubilate lecturer of divinity of the college of St. Isidore, and definito general of his order. He wrote and published a book entitled *De Sanctissima Trinitate*, Romae, folio. He was living about the year 1689.—3. Francis Burke, died in Italy in 1697. He wrote *Directorium Concionatorium* Pragae, 1690, in two vols., 8vo.

19 Part of the under-works of this monument were dug up about the year 1779, and, by order of father Anthony Carroll, placed in the wall of the sacristy and near the lower entrance to the chapel. In the latter are sculptured figures of St. Patrick and St. Nicholas, the patron of the town, with the family arms of Brown and the crest of French, beneath which are engraved the names "Peter French" and Mary Browne. The other parts exhibit the Crucifixion, but the cross and body defaced; the two Marys, the twelve apostles, saint Clara, saint Anthony of Padua, saint Francis of Assisium, and others. These remains are much injured by time, but, even still, may enable the

spectator to form an idea of the magnificence of this once stately mausoleum.

20 The warden and vicars contended for the right, not only when the deceased was to be interred in the parish church, but also in any monastery or burial-place belonging to the friars; the others, on the contrary, maintained that, in the latter case, they alone were entitled. The point, however, was decided as above.

21 1689, August 1st, common council, "The Capucins' petition being read for their reception into this town, it is ordered that they be received into, admitted and established within this town of Galway, in as full and ample manner as their predecessors have been formerly established."—Corp. Book C.—The friars were scarcely reinstated when the most violent contentions again broke out between them and the warden concerning the right to "mortuary money," which proceeded so far that the corporation was at length obliged to interfere to compose their differences. It is with pleasure we are enabled to state that no similar occurrence has ever since taken place, though it is asserted that the right to this miserable tax on mortality still remains undecided.

In 1690 the friars supplied lime and other materials for building the fortifications round Barachalla.—Corp. Book.—In the same year Allemande describes the church of this monastery as "a very large and noble structure, then almost entire, and serving for a court of judicature."

town were banished; but they afterwards gradually ventured to return, and for many years suffered the most severe persecutions, having been frequently imprisoned, tried, transported, and often in danger of their lives.

1724. The abbey chapel was repaired, and mass publicly celebrated, which gave great offence to the heads of the corporation. The friars, four in number, were arrested by order of the mayor, and tried on capital indictments at the ensuing assizes, but were severally acquitted.

1731. The town sheriffs searched the friary, and the mayor, in his return to the house of lords, stated that in it "there is a large chapel, with an altar, laid out and adorned with pictures; in which said reputed friary there are fifteen chambers and nine beds, wherein they (the sheriffs) supposed the friars belonging to the said friary usually lay; but could not find or discover any of them. It is an old friary; but the chapel enlarged and repaired about the year 1723 or 1724."

1779. June, the tomb of the founder, Sir William de Burgh, was discovered, upwards of four feet under ground, with his family arms and a long broad sword elegantly carved thereon. The following inscription appears in raised letters round the margin:—"Memoriae G^o. Illmo^o. Dno. Gull Oe Burgo suae nationis Principi et hujus monasterii Fundatori qui obiit 1324—Posuit F.V.B.G. 1645,"²²

1781. The chapel was rebuilt, before which it was a small thatched edifice, both narrow and inconvenient. Though at present its external appearance is plain, it presents within a spacious, convenient and handsome place of worship, 120 feet long and 30 feet broad, and is capable of accommodating upwards of two thousand people. The altar-piece represents the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin; on one side of it there are two paintings, one of St. Joseph and the Infant Jesus, and the other of St. Bonaventure; on the opposite side a St. Peter de Alcantara and an *Ecce Homo*. There are two side altars, on which mass is occasionally celebrated: over that on the right, from the lower entrance, the altar-piece is a St. Anthony of Padua, and over that on the left a good painting of St. Francis, the founder of the order. The devotion called the stations of the Holy Cross, which is confined solely to the Franciscans, is observed here. The friars reside in a large commodious house contiguous to the chapel; they occasionally preach, and daily celebrate the divine mysteries, and the accommodation and convenience of the public are attended to on all occasions.

The cemetery attached to this house is extensive, and contains the burial-places of some of the most considerable families in the province. The monuments are much more ancient than numerous, and the inscriptions generally contain little more than the names and obits of the deceased:

²² It was before noticed that this tomb dian of the monastery. Part of an arch was repaired and beautified in 1645. The and some other remains of this venerable letters F.V.B.G., which conclude the monument, are still to be seen at the above inscription, are the initials of the lower entrance to the chapel. words Father Valentine Browne, Guar-

a few will be found selected underneath,²³ which are interesting only for their antiquity, and the respectable individuals whom they commemorate.

The little that remains to be said of this foundation will equally apply to the other convents, of which the separate accounts which follow have been collected. The Franciscans are governed by a guardian, and the Dominicans and Augustinians by priors, who are all triennially chosen. The dwelling-houses in which they reside are commodious, and conveniently situated near their respective chapels. They are principally supported by the interest arising from charitable donations; and they resort to the neighbouring districts, at certain seasons of the year, whence they return with supplies of sheep, grain, potatoes, and other articles of consumption: they also partake of the several sorts of fish taken in the bay, which the fishermen cheerfully and liberally share with them (but particularly with the Dominicans, who reside immediately near the sea), under a firm belief that their prayers render the watery element more abundant. Other minor sources of support are chaplaincies, daily masses, occasional high-masses chaunted for the dead, voluntary offerings, mortuary money, remembrance masses, chapel rent, collected annually, and candle money, half-yearly. All which, with other trifling contingencies, enable them to live as becomes their sacred character, and, if a judgment can be formed from external appearances, leave them very little reason to regret the forfeited estates and other extensive privileges of their more opulent predecessors.

All those acquainted with the history of the middle ages, or of the times

23 Monuments and Inscriptions.

1.

The tomb of the ancient family of O'Nolan, of Loughboy, is situate in the centre of the churchyard and bears the following inscription:—"This tomb was first erected in the year of Our Lord 1394, by the O'Nolans of Loughboy, and is now re-built and ornamented by Michael O'Nolan, merchant, Galway, one of the representatives of said family."

2.

A very curiously carved stone, which lies near the modern tomb of O'Connor, contains the arms of the corporation of goldsmiths, and several instruments of torture used at the Crucifixion, and an antique ship, with the following words in raised letters round the margin:—

Orate pro animabus Walter id marchau et Margarete ni Davin Uroris ejus, ac eorundem parentum, Qui hunc lapidem fieri fecerunt, quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen. Anno Dni 1579. Thomas Davin Felorcianideran.

3.

On a large tomb in the S.W. corner:—Pray for the Soule of Alderman Dominick Browne and his posterity, who died in the year 1596. Here lies the Body of Captain Andrew Browne, of Gloves, Esq., whose family tomb this is which was erected in the year 1596.

On Darcy's vault, in the same corner: Epitaphium D. Jacobi, Darcy Majoris, Conaciae praeudis, Galviae praetoris, etc. Qui obiit an' Dni' 1603.

Hic amour Heroum Decus Urbis, norma Senatus, Mensa peregrini, pauperis arca jacet.

This tomb was repaired by the descendants of James Darcy in the year of our Lord 1728. Pray for the dead.

5.

The centre of the yard, to which the chancel of the old church extended, is the place of interment of the friars of the order and also of the nuns of St. Clare, of the Franciscan observance. There are several monuments with raised, full-length effigies of some of the friars, dressed in their habits, and of the nuns in their costume. The former bear a chalice in their hands, their shoes are high-heeled, and they wear the cap of their order; the inscriptions are generally in raised letters round the margin. On one of these the following is just legible:

O Lord have mercy on the Soule of Father Thomas O'Maeony, who dyed the 23 of September, Anno Domini ()

6.

On another:

Orate pro anima Thomae French sacerdotis qui obiit Uicefimo Octavo Octobris, 1629. F. R.

immediately preceding the sixteenth century, must be aware that the state of the regular clergy was then very different from what it is at the present day. The change of religion in these countries shook the monastic foundations to their centre; and since that great event they have silently undergone a reformation which the powers of the Vatican, however otherwise formidable, were never able to accomplish. When deprived of their wealth and influence, and doomed to undergo the severity of persecution, their lives exhibited at once all the virtues of primitive christianity. In Ireland, where a parallel to their sufferings can only be found in the early history of the church, no crime, immoral or irreligious, could ever be imputed to this extensive body of men; on the contrary, their very persecutors often bore testimony to the innocence and sanctity of their lives. All this can here be asserted with confidence, as Galway had been, until the mitigation of the penal laws took place, one of the principal places which afforded refuge to these proscribed ecclesiastics. When, therefore, the quiet and peaceable demeanour of their lives, the laudable example which their piety and morals continually afford, their constant and regular attendance to the duties of religion, and their unceasing acts of charity and benevolence, shall be considered, even the prejudiced themselves cannot but pronounce them most praiseworthy and deserving members of society.

7.

On another on which there is carved a full-length figure of St. Clare:

Here lieth the Body of Caet Nily, Nun of the Order of St. Clara, who died 22 of February, anno 1638. St. Clara.

8.

On a similar monument, except that St. Clare appears kneeling in the attitude of prayer, the following inscription is legible:

1672. Here lieth the Body of the R. Mother Maria Gabriel alias () Helen Martin, first Abbes and religious of the poor Clares of Galway, who dyed the 14 of Janu. adged 63, in religion 40. Pray for her Soule.

9.

On a flat stone near the foregoing:—Here lieth the Body of Nicholas O'Beirne, and his wife, Margaret Ny Kulinan, whose Souls we commend to God. Amen. 1629.

10.

At a short distance from there lies the monument of the Quin family, and on it inscribed:—"This tomb was first erected in the year 1649, by James Quin, of Galway, merchant, and Eleanor Joyes, his wife. In memory of whom, James Quin, of Galway, aforesaid, merchant, one of the descendants of said James, caused the same to be entirely repaired and ornamented, in the year 1762. Requiescant in pace."

11.

A branch of the family of the Lynches have a large tomb here, with this inscription:—"This tomb was first built by

James Lynch, merchant, A.D. 1679; and repaired in the year 1764 by Alexander Lynch Fitz-John, one of the descendants of said James, and thus ornamented, in the year 1779, by said Alexander. Requiescant in pace."

12.

On a handsome marble monument, near the lower entrance to the chapel:—"Pray for the Soul of Annabella Martin, who dyed Sept. 28 1766, and is buried in the family vault, near this place."

There are many other monuments, but the inscriptions are mostly defaced and illegible; there are also a great number of modern gravestones, but few of the inscriptions worth noticing. The two following are selected as the only specimens of monumental verse in the entire:

13.

✠

Cate Kirwan, daughter to Val. Kirwan and Jeane Martin, died a child, 1727. I need no pitty, for no guilt I knew; Pray for my neighbours, and I'll pray for you.

14.

✠

As I was once like thee,
So thou shalt surely be
A skel'ton like me;
Then haste and snatch the present hour,
Implore the mercy seat,
Lest death should rob thee of the power,
And doom thy eternal fate.
God be merciful to the Soul of Charles Bird, who died ye 18th Feb. 1781.

DOMINICAN FRIARY.

This friary is situate on an elevated spot, near the sea-shore, in the west suburbs of the town. It stands on the site of the ancient convent of St. Mary of the Hill, a daughter of the Holy Trinity, of the Premonstratenses of Tuam, which was founded by the O'Hallorans, but at what period of time the annals of the town are silent; there is, however, every reason to pronounce it of very great antiquity. On the nuns forsaking it, the secular clergy entered, and kept possession for a considerable time; but, on the petition of the inhabitants of the town to pope Innocent VIII., it was granted in 1488 to the Dominican friars of Athenry by a bull, which may be seen at full (p. 323) in De Burgo's history of this celebrated order in Ireland.

The Dominican convent being thus established in Galway, was richly endowed by many individuals of the town, and several considerable additions were made to the monastery and church. James Lynch Fitz-Stephen, who was mayor in 1493, and who has been already celebrated for immolating his only son at the shrine of public justice, erected the choir. Various other improvements were gradually made, until, in course of time, this became one of the most perfect religious foundations in the province.

1570, March 9th, Queen Elizabeth granted to the corporation and their successors part of the possessions of this monastery, then lately dissolved.

1642. Lord Forbes, landing here, took possession of this house, which he converted into a battery, with intent to reduce the town; but, having failed in his design, he defaced the church and, in his brutal rage, dug up the graves and burned the coffins and bones of the dead.

1652. The church and monastery were surrendered by the friars to the corporation, and were soon after razed to the ground, to prevent them from being converted by Cromwell's forces into a fortification against the town. It was, however, previously agreed upon by the corporation that, on the return of peace, the whole should be rebuilt and restored to its former state at the expense of the inhabitants—an undertaking, says O'Heyn in his account of this circumstance, which they would certainly have fulfilled if the desired tranquillity had ever taken place; for, adds he, the citizens were very pious, and powerfully rich from the extensive maritime commerce with which Galway, beyond any other part of the kingdom, abounded.

Henceforth the friars of this community suffered, in common with their brethren of the other orders, all the persecutions of the times. They were, however, enabled, early in the eighteenth century, to regain possession of their ancient convent, which they soon afterwards repaired. They also, with the rest, shared in the visitation of 1731.²⁴ From that period nothing

²⁴ On this occasion the mayor reported ten chambers and eight beds, wherein, "that they also searched the friary in the west suburbs, called the Dominican friary, wherein is a large chapel, with gallery, some forms, and an altar-piece, defaced; in which said reputed friary there are they believe, the friars belonging to the said friary usually lay, but could find none of them. That it is a very old friary, but some repairs lately made in it."

particular occurs until about the year 1800, when the present chapel was erected on the site of the former. This neat and commodious building, which is 100 feet long and 28 feet broad, contains a spacious gallery, with a well-toned organ. The high-altar is tastefully decorated, and there are handsome side-altars to correspond. The residence of the friars is conveniently situated near the chapel, and commands a pleasing prospect of the bay, terminated by the opposite shores of Oranmore, Renvile and Ardfry, the Clare mountains, with the new light-house, and part of the town-quay and shipping. The scenery from this spot, particularly at high water, when the numerous boats appear gliding along in various directions, is highly picturesque and beautiful. This monastery produced several men eminent for piety and learning, amongst whom the subjoined have been particularly distinguished.²⁵ In the adjoining cemetery, which is surrounded with an extensive wall, there are several tombs and monuments, but few of ancient

25 Father Peter Martin was in his time very celebrated as a preacher, and O'Heyn relates that he was consulted by the highest dignitaries of the church upon all questions of religion, "*veluti quoddam oraculum securitatis.*" He finished his pious career in 1645.

Nicholas Lynch, elected provincial of Ireland in 1627, and confirmed by the general chapter of the order in Rome in 1645, was remarkable for his piety. He restored the devotion of the rosary in Galway, and was a most zealous propagator of it throughout the kingdom.

Dominick Lynze (Lynch) lived for many years with great reputation in Spain. He was appointed synodical judge in Seville; was gradually promoted to all the honors of that university, became first lecturer in arts and philosophy, master of the students, secondary professor of divinity, and was finally elected principal regent of the college of St. Thomas in that city, which he governed with universal approbation until his death in 1697. He was so highly esteemed in Spain that Nicholas Antonio, with much honour, ranked him among the writers of that country. His great work, entitled "*Summa Philosophiæ*," etc., was printed at Paris, 4 vols., quarto, 1666, 1686.—Harris.

When this learned man was elected regent of the college in Seville, the rector, chancellors and religious, on 13th May, 1674, deputed one of their body, the reverend father Francis de Ayora, "to go, in their names, to the kingdoms of England, Ireland and Scotland, and there to make particular inquiry concerning the pedigree, life and demeanor of said Dominick Linze, and to bring same back to the college."—This gentleman arrived in Galway in August following, and made the necessary inquiry: he examined several witnesses, whose testimony proved highly

honorable to the distinguished individual in question. A copy of the proceedings on this occasion (attested as a true transcript from the original in Spain by John Morgan, esq., who was recorder in 1774), containing many curious particulars relating to the Lynches of Galway, was communicated to the author by his esteemed friend, John Lynch Alexander, esq.

Father John Browne of the Dominican order of Galway, was also particularly noticed for his virtues. He was sent into banishment in 1698, and died at Louvain in 1700.

Christopher French, another member of this convent, finished his studies at Louvain. He was afterwards professor of divinity at Rome, and then for eight years at Osimo, in the marquisate of Ancona; in Italy, being invited thither by cardinal Palivicini; he returned from thence to Louvain, where he became regent of the Irish schools, and was alive in 1713. He wrote "*Theses Theologicae*," etc., Lovanii, 1703, 4to.—Harris.

Andrew Kirwan, another pious Dominican, after many zealous exertions in the cause of religion in Galway, was summoned to discover against some of his friends, whereby, under the penal laws, they would have been deprived of their properties. To avoid this cruel dilemma he went into voluntary exile and died abroad, in the year 1736.

Edmund de Burgo (Burke), a Dominican friar began his studies in the convent of Galway, which he finished in Spain. He afterwards (1706) became principal regent of the Irish school of his order in Louvain. He died in Rome about 1738. For a list of his numerous writings see Harris, and also the learned and ingenious historian of this order, John O'Heyn, who was also a Dominican friar and, as Harris thinks, a native of Galway.

date, lord Forbes having, when he landed here in 1642, destroyed and defaced all the old and curious remains of earlier times.²⁶

AUGUSTINIAN FRIARY.

This friary was situate on an eminence near the sea, in the south suburbs of the town, and within a few hundred yards of the walls. It was founded, in 1508, by Margaret Athy, wife of Stephen Lynch Fitz-Dominick *Dubh* (who was many years mayor of the town), at the earnest solicitation of Richard Nangle, a friar of the same order, who afterwards became archbishop of Tuam.²⁷ The position which was chosen commanded a fine prospect of the bay, the surrounding mountains, and the three distant islands of Aran; and the monastery itself, from its elevated situation (particularly when viewed from the bay), appeared to peculiar advantage.

1517. July 17th. Richard Edmund de Burgo confirmed unto Richard Nangle, *Sacre pagine professori*, of the order of hermits of St. Augustine, and to father Donot O'Maille, prior of the same convent of the new monastery of Galway, of the same order, and to their successors, in free and perpetual alms for ever, "his parish church of *Roscam*, in the diocess of Enaghdowne, with the cemetery on the west part of the wall of said church, a certain parcel of land near the same, called *Tirnahalle*, situate in breadth to the great stones in the west of *Tirnahalle*, and in length from the sea upwards to the wall near the wood, and also another large tract, commonly called *Gortintagart*, with liberty of pasture for eight cows and six horses, to pray for the souls of himself, his parents and successors."²⁸

²⁶ The following are earliest inscriptions now remaining:—



Hic jacet Corpus Mauricii O'Ferrall -
Pripicietur Deus—Ao. 1588.

Orent pro anima fratris Tho. Iane
Anton' Ord' Pred defuncti Anno 1627.

²⁷ This monastery was commenced by the pious foundress during her husband's absence in Spain. The church and steeple having been finished before his return he was surprised, on entering the bay, to behold so stately a building in a place where, at his departure, not a stone had been laid; but when, on landing, he found that it had been erected by his own wife, in honor of St. Augustine, his surprise was converted into joy; and the good man, kneeling down on the sea-shore, returned thanks to Heaven for inspiring her with that pious resolution. This lady afterwards made a pilgrimage to St. James's, in Galicia, and intended to visit the Holy Land, but was prevented by illness.—*Annals*.

F. Lubin mentions that there was in this convent a spring called St. Augustine's Well, the water whereof wrought miraculous cures; but in this he was mistaken, for the well known by that name (with two others, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. John the Baptist) is situ-

ate at a considerable distance to the S.E. of the monastery, on the shore of the inlet of the sea called Logh-a-thalia. These springs are resorted to at stated times (but particularly on the 28th of August, being the festival of the saint), and certain devotions are performed around them and it is asserted that the water has effected several cures, particularly that of restoring sight to the blind. Besides these, there are several other holy wells in the vicinity of Galway, viz.: St. Bride's in the east suburbs—St. Bridget's, at the end of the Earl's-lane, within a few paces of the present custom-house—St. Anne's, about half-a-mile towards the west of the town, near the strand—and another farther on in the same direction, near the sea-shore; to each of which miracles have been also attributed.

Ware finds fault with Crusenius for calling this convent "Calviensis"; but for which, says Allemande, he was not to blame, having taken it from the registers of the order. The latter writer adds that neither of them mentions the time of the founding, nor the founder's name; but states that he himself had heard it was founded by the Birminghams in the 13th century. It is very probable that he ~~was~~ took this for some other foundation.

²⁸ Original Deed.

1570. Queen Elizabeth granted to the corporation and their successors part of the possessions of this monastery, then lately dissolved, which grant she afterwards renewed on 11th September, 1578, for forty years: and on 11th February, 1603, James I. granted all its possessions to Sir George Carew, knt., his heirs and assigns for ever.

On the suppression of the monastery, the friars removed to a large house within the town, in which they resided for many years after. The church, however, remained standing, and, on the building of St. Augustine's fort, in 1602, it was converted into a store for the use of the soldiery. When this fort was demolished, in 1643, the monastery was spared and delivered up to the friars, by whom it was repaired: but in 1652 was again surrendered to the corporation,²⁹ who caused it to be pulled down, lest it should be fortified against the town. Since that time it has been entirely abandoned, and not a vestige of the church now remains. The cemetery is extensive, and though there are several modern gravestones, it does not, for very obvious reasons, contain any monument of antiquity.³⁰ The friars, like their contemporaries of the other orders, experienced for many years all the rigours of State persecution,³¹ About the middle of the last century, they removed to a large commodious house in Middle-street, where they erected a handsome chapel. This building has been recently enlarged and improved, and, from its central situation, is particularly convenient for the inhabitants of the town.

CARMELITE FRIARY.

This triary is said to have been founded here by the De Burgo family; but upon what authority it is attributed to them, or at what period it was erected, are not mentioned. In 1647 the friars opposed the pope's nuncio, Rinuncini, and his treatment of them on the occasion formed one of the principal articles of accusation brought against him by the supreme council.

The Augustinian convent of Galway ranks next to that of Dublin; and, from its thus taking precedence of all the other convents of the order in Ireland, some are inclined to infer that it must have been founded earlier than the 16th century—an inference which would be undeniable if these foundations ranked according to time.

²⁹ The corporation covenanted that, on the restoration of peace, the church and convent should be rebuilt. Their bond to that effect is now in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Tierney, a respectable member of this order.

³⁰ The two following inscriptions are the oldest now remaining:

"We earnestly begg, dear christians, to say one Ave-Maria for the souls of John Bodkin, of Anagh, his wife, Megg Blake, of Ardfry, and their Posterity. This is the first tomb made in this abby, in the year 1745."

"Hic jacet Dominus Hugo Fergus, ex-petissimus Medicus, obiit 27 Augusti,

1758. Requiescat in pace. Amen."

The burial-place extending daily beyond its ancient limits, the proprietor of the adjoining ground inclosed it with a stone wall, and erected a handsome gate at the entrance with the following inscription:

"This Burial-ground inclosed at the expense of Robert Hedges Eyre, Esq. as a mark of his respect and esteem for the inhabitants of the town of Galway, in August, 1811."

³¹ In 1731 the mayor reported that the sheriffs "searched the reputed friary in Back-street, called the Augustinian friary, wherein there was a chapel, with forms, but the altar and pictures taken down; and within which said reputed friary there are seven chambers and nine beds, wherein they apprehend the friars used to lie, but could not find or discover any of the said friars; which said house, they believe, was converted to a friary many years ago, and before the reign of king George I."—Com. Jour.

—(*Hib. Dom.* p. 684).—These friars were soon after banished with the other religious and clergy, and have never since been reinstated in the town.

THE CAPUCHIN FRIARS.

On the restoration of the Catholics, in 1689, the Capuchins petitioned the corporation for leave to return, and be established in as full and ample manner within the town as their predecessors had formerly been. This request was accordingly granted; but they soon after shared the fate of their contemporaries of the other convents, and the order has never since been revived in Galway.

KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

This famous order had a convent here, beyond the east gate; but it was suppressed in 1312, and its possessions granted by Edward II. to the hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. The circular foundation of this ancient building may be seen marked on the old map of the town, at the south-west corner of the green.

FRANCISCAN NUNNERY, OR CONVENT OF ST. CLARE.

The principal religious foundations for which Galway had been formerly so celebrated, and for which it is even still distinguished, may be traced to the piety of its ancient inhabitants. In 1511, Walter Lynch Fitz-Thomas (who was mayor of the town in 1504, and again in 1513), bestowed on his daughter a dwelling-house near St. Nicholas' church, which was afterwards known as "the house of the poor nuns of the third order of St. Francis."³² Nothing particular occurs concerning this community until 1649, when the nuns presented a memorial to the corporation, praying a grant of as much ground in Island-altenagh, at the west of the town, as would be sufficient for erecting a monastery and other necessary buildings.³³ Their request having been acceded to, they soon after erected a handsome monastery on

³² In the genealogical account of the Dillon family in Lodge's Peerage of Ireland, it is stated that Ellen and Cecilia, the eighth and ninth daughters of Theobald, first viscount of that name, and nuns of the order of St. Clare, had established the Franciscan order of nuns in Galway; but for this statement no authority whatsoever has been (nor, as is apprehended, could be) given.—Vide Lodge, Vol. IV., p. 184.

³³ This memorial was to the following effect:—"That your petitioners, members of this corporation, did some yeares sithence forsake the world for to serve the Almighty, and what through the distempers of the times, and through God's holy will, have suffered great affliction these seven yeares past, and in their necessity, as bound by nature, repaired to this towne; shewing further that, through necessity, by reason of the times, their parents and friends are unable to furnish their wants, as in peaceful tymes they have intended; and that your poor petitioners doe suffer much by the exorbitant rent they pay, and, notwithstanding their due payment, are to be thrust out of their dwelling next May, their lease being then ended; the premises considered, and taken to your consideration the inconvenience of religious women who want habitation, the convenience of their residence in this place, the preferment of young children, though poor, shall be relieved, by God's assistance, in our convent, the everlasting prayers to be made for you, the glory of God, the preservation of the town, by your petitioners and their successors their intercessions, the honour of Gallway, to befounde such a monasterie; the petitioners humbly pray that you may be pleased to grant them sufficient roome for building a monasterie and rooms convenient thereunto, a garden and orchard in the next island, ad-

that island,³⁴ but they enjoyed it only for a short period, for, soon after the surrender of the town, in 1652, they were obliged to disperse and retreat to foreign parts, where these persecuted and defenceless females suffered all the miseries of a long and comfortless exile. After a lapse of many years they at length began to entertain hopes of once more revisiting their native land; and accordingly, on the change of political circumstances which took place in 1686, the few who survived returned to Galway, and settled in a large house in the Market-street, where, with the exception of a few temporary removals, their successors have ever since continued.

During the persecution of 1698, all the convents in the town were, on the 1st of May, broken into by the military: the chapels were torn down, and every religious emblem was destroyed: the nuns were at the same time forced out, obliged to change their habits, and take refuge among their friends in the country; but when the heat of the persecution was over they re-assembled and returned to their former dwellings. Here they remained unmolested until the beginning of April, 1712, when Edward Eyre, the mayor, was directed "to suppress the nunneries."³⁵ The nuns were accordingly again turned out of the town, and were a second time obliged to have recourse to their friends. In this distressing situation doctor John Burke, the then provincial of the order of St. Francis in Ireland, obtained permission from doctor Edmund Byrne, titular archbishop of Dublin, to admit them into his diocese, hoping they would be less noticed there than in a place upon which the government kept so strict an eye as Galway. A few of these unhappy ladies were accordingly translated to Dublin; but they had scarcely reached that city when the lords justices received information of their arrival, and immediately issued orders for their apprehension, in consequence of which several of them were taken in the habits of their order. A proclamation then issued, dated the 20th of September, 1712, "to apprehend the said John Burke, doctor Byrne and doctor Nary, popish priests, who presumed to exercise ecclesiastical jurisdiction, contrary to the laws of the kingdom"; and it was ordered "that all the laws in force against the papists should be strictly carried into execution."—Such were the fears and alarm caused by the arrival of a few weak women in

joyning to the bridge of Illanalltenagh; and for that your petitioners is building will be rather a strength than any annoyance, hindrance or impeachment, either to the highway leading to the other island or to the safety and preservation of this corporation; which granted, they will ever pray.

Sister Mary Bonaventure,
unworthy abbess.

Immediately after this memorial, the following entry appears in the corporation-book A:—"Consideration being had of the contents of this petition, it is thought fit by the mayor and council, for the reasons therein inserted, that petitioners' demands be granted, provided they make up a common and bridge to the other island. 1st July, 1649."—Vide the old map of Galway, p. 31.

³⁴ This is the nunnery mentioned by Pococke in his Journal to have been situate in an island in Lough-Corrib, to the west of the town, and afterwards alluded to by Archdall in the Monasticon, p. 288.

³⁵ On this occasion Mr. Dawson, secretary of state wrote to the mayor as follows:—"Their excellencies are surprised to hear there should be any difficulty made in finding out the nunneries in Galway, when you yourself said at the council-board, with great assurance, that there were such, and when also it is so publicly and generally known: they, therefore, expect your particular care in that matter, otherwise they will be inclined to think it is omitted through your unwillingness to engage therein."—Orig. Letter.

the capital, as if the circumstance had been sufficient to overturn the government, or to shake the foundations of the established church!

In the meantime, the convents in Galway were converted into barracks; but when the storm subsided the nuns again ventured to come forth from their hiding-places, and at length succeeded in regaining possession of their former habitations. They were again visited in 1731, but have ever since remained unmolested; and nothing particular, except what will be found subjoined, has occurred concerning them from that period to the present time.³⁶

The convent of the Franciscan nuns is under the guidance of an abbess, and those of the Dominicans and Augustinians under prioresses, chosen triennially, each of whom, for the time being, has the general superintendence of all affairs relating to the respective communities. The nunneries, which are large and roomy buildings, are situated in convenient parts of the town, and are the same wherein the nuns have resided for upwards of a century past. The funds of the three orders are considerable, and amply sufficient to supply them with every conveniency of life. They are gradually increased by the sums paid on the entrance of ladies into the religious state, usually about three or four hundred pounds each, and often considerably more. These sums are placed out at interest; and the expenses of the community being in general defrayed out of the growing interest, aided by the annual income arising from female boarders and other incidental resources, the principal sums are but seldom, and never except on extraordinary emergencies, resorted to. These ladies being also for the most part related to respectable Catholic families, often receive yearly allowances or annuities from their friends, which enable them to perform many private acts of charity and benevolence.

To the three nunneries there are attached handsome and commodious chapels, which are adorned with several fine paintings, and in each of which mass is daily celebrated by the chaplains of the different orders. These chapels are also very convenient for the inhabitants of the town, particularly the female part of the community, by whom they are principally resorted. The number of professed nuns of the Franciscan order is at

³⁶ In the return before alluded to, made by the mayor in 1731, he stated "that the sheriffs searched the reputed nunnery in Lombard-street, called the Franciscan nunnery and saw only some servants there; but found therein twenty-six beds in twelve rooms, wherein, they believe, the reputed nuns belonging to said house lay and some young gentlewomen, who lodged and boarded with them before they dispersed."

In 1740 the ladies of this house petitioned queen Caroline of England, stating the various hardships they had suffered by repeated persecutions, and the entire deprivation of their property, and humbly besought her majesty to compassionate the situation of distressed and defenceless females, retired from the world, by ordering them to be restored to that part of

their ancient property situate in Island-altenagh, or the "Nuns' Island," near the town, which was formerly granted to them by the corporation, and on which they had laid the foundation of a monastery. A deputation of their body repaired to England and (as is said, attired in the habit of their order), ventured to present their memorial to the queen. They were graciously received, and her majesty was pleased to grant their request. The premises to which they were thus restored contain about five or six acres of tolerable ground, which affords a sufficient pasturage for a few milch cows. They erected a neat lodge on the island, in a healthy situation, and have a good garden, which supplies sufficient fruit and vegetables for the use of the convent.

present about eighteen, of the Dominicans fourteen or fifteen, and of the Augustinians six or seven; of whom it is not too much to say that they are as respectable, venerable and exemplary a body of religious females as any other of the same extent in the world.

DOMINICAN NUNNERY.

In 1644 the affairs of the Catholics of Ireland, and particularly those of the Dominicans, were in a flourishing state; but there was no convent established for nuns of that order, until the inhabitants of Galway, by the consent of the general and provincial chapter, founded this nunnery. Father Gregory French, a learned and virtuous Dominican, who was afterwards banished from his native country and died in exile in Italy, was appointed the first superior.³⁷ When the town was taken by Cromwell's forces in 1652, the nuns, with their then vicar, father Gregory O'Ferrall, went to Spain. Two only of the number survived, namely, Julia Nolan and Maria Lynch, who returned to Galway in 1686, by direction of John Browne, provincial of the order in Ireland. On their arrival, the former was instituted prioress, and the latter sub-prioress; a house having been provided for them in the town, the community soon increased, and, before the end of two years, was effectually re-established.

In 1698 they were again dispersed. It was most deplorable, says the historian of these melancholy scenes, to witness the cries and tears of these distressed females, by which even their very persecutors were moved to compassion. The convent was converted into a barrack, but the nuns remained secretly in town, amongst their friends, under the direction of their venerable prioress, Julia Nolan, who was released by death from all her sufferings, in 1701, at the age of ninety years, and was succeeded by the sub-prioress, Maria Lynch. They were soon after obliged to quit the town altogether, and seek refuge among their relations in the country, without the most distant hopes of being ever able to return. In this forlorn situation Hugh O'Callanan, the then provincial of the order, having obtained permission from doctor Edmond Byrne, titular archbishop of Dublin, to admit them into his diocese, eight of the dispersed nuns repaired to the capital, where they arrived in March, 1717, and dwelt together in a house in Fisker's-lane, on the north side of the river. In September following they removed to Channel-row, afterwards Brunswick-street, where they originated the convent of *Jesus, Mary and Joseph*, of Dublin.³⁸ In the

³⁷ The foundation was afterwards confirmed by letters of the nuncio, Rinuccini, who enjoined the nuns to offer up, in perpetuum, certain devotions. "ut Catholicorum exercitus, de hostibus victoria reportent, pestiferumque virus Haeticorum ab hoc regno exterminetur."—This curious document may be seen at large in De Burgo's history of this order.

³⁸ At a general council of the Dominican order, held in Rome in 1721, it was provided "that the two convents of Galway and Dublin might be able to elect prioresses according to the laws and constitutions of the order; and that they

should thenceforth be incorporated and united in the same, and be subject to the provincial of Ireland, for the time being." In 1731, the town sheriffs visited this convent and stated "that they had searched the same, and saw some young gentlewomen and girls, who alleged they lodged and boarded in the house; that they found therein twenty-seven beds, in eleven chambers, in some of which the said young women and girls lay, and the said reputed nuns in the rest before they dispersed."—For more of this nunnery see De Burgo's *Hibernia Dominicana*, p. 349.

meantime, the ladies who remained near Galway returned to the town, and obtained possession of their former habitation, in which their successors have ever since continued.

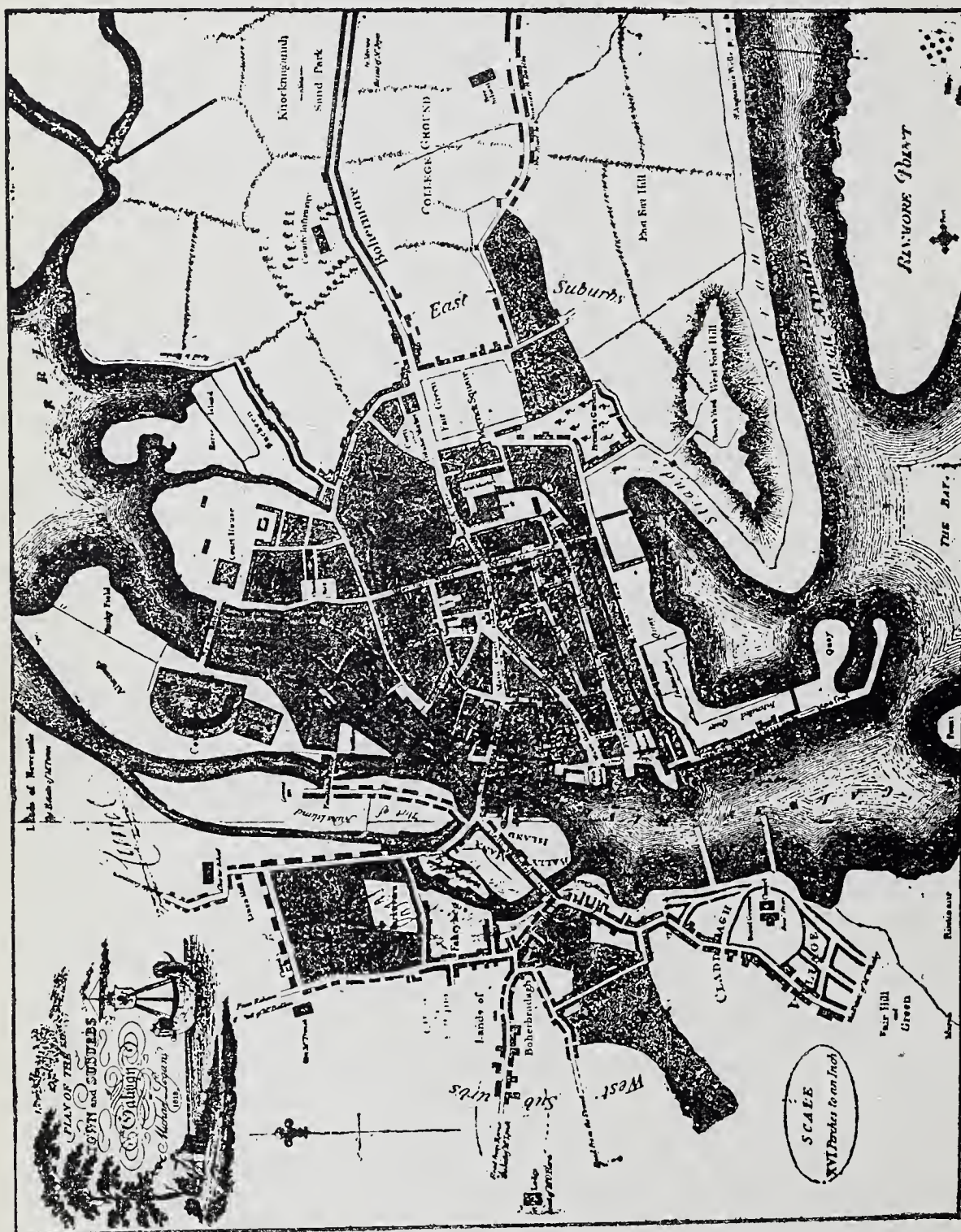
AUGUSTINIAN NUNNERY.

This nunnery was established in Middle-street, early in the last century. In the year 1731 the mayor reported that he had searched the house, and that he had found none but servants therein; but discovered, in seven rooms, ten beds, in which it was apprehended the reputed nuns lay before their dispersion. Since this period nothing particular occurs relating to this foundation.

PRESENTATION CONVENT.

This useful order of religious females, whose principal object is the education of poor female children, was established here on the 27th of October, 1815, under the patronage and protection of the very reverend Warden Ffrench. They commenced their christian avocations in a house in Kirwan's-lane, in November, 1815; but opened on a more extended scale in a large house at Meyrick-square, in March following. Here they continued until 1819, when they removed to a spacious, elegant and well-situated building (the former charter school, which they hold by lease for 60 years, at £80 annual rent), in the west suburbs of the town. The entire of this extensive concern has been thoroughly repaired and fitted up with convenient schoolrooms: it is surrounded by a high wall, and is esteemed one of the best circumstanced foundations of the kind in the kingdom. Each lady, on admission to this order, pays a sum of £500 towards the general fund, which is now considered sufficient, with the aid of annual sermons and occasional donations, to support this valuable establishment. From the charitable labours of these exemplary ladies many benefits have already accrued, and are thereafter likely to accrue, to society, by the moral, religious and usefully domestic education of so many of its most helpless and most generally neglected members. At present thirty female orphan children are dieted, lodged, clothed and educated; and upwards of three hundred female day scholars are instructed in useful needlework, reading, writing, the common rules of arithmetic, and the principles of religion. It is to many a subject of regret that the pious ladies of our other convents had not heretofore (if at all compatible with their rules) adopted, even on a limited scale, this humane plan. How many hundreds, by imbibing virtuous principles and acquiring ideas of industry, might, by their exertions, have been rescued from those courses of idleness and vice to which the poor unprotected female is, alas! but too often liable.—For this valuable institution the memorable dying words of the celebrated Venetian for the liberties of his country cannot be too frequently repeated.³⁹

HISTORY OF GALWAY.



Drawn and Engraved for Hardiman's History of Galway, 1820.

THE HISTORY OF GALWAY.

PART IV.

THE MODERN STATE AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN.

I. TOPOGRAPHY.

1.—*Situation and Natural Advantages.*

Galway is advantageously situated on the side of a broad and rapid river, to which it gives name, and by which the extensive Lake Corrib pours its redundant waters into the ocean.¹ It lies in 53 deg. 16 north latitude, and 8 deg. 58 west longitude from Greenwich; is distant from Dublin, in nearly a direct line, about 104 Irish miles, and is the most westerly town of consequence in Europe. The bay is esteemed one of the noblest entrances in the world: it extends nearly thirty miles eastward of the isles of Arran, and contains innumerable roads and harbours. The haven is safe and

¹ The importance of this extensive lake towards facilitating the internal navigation of the western parts of Ireland was briefly pointed out in a preceding note. Here a few interesting and, to this part of the kingdom, highly valuable extracts, on the same subject, will be given, principally from the reports of the scientific and ingenious Mr. Alexander Nimmo to parliament, on the survey of the bogs of this district. The lake (which, according to these reports, has 50 miles of shore, occupies 30,000 Irish acres, and contains about 1,000 acres of arable land in its isles), contracts into a very spacious river about 2½ miles above Galway, which, flowing by the town, communicates with the Atlantic. The fall from the summit level of the lake to the sea is considerable; but to the Wood-quay, above the town, it is trifling, and the river is in parts very shallow running over a bed of rocks and hard gravel. It is not navigable from the sea to the Wood-quay owing to the shallowness and the rapidity of the water, and none but small boats can come down; but, unless in very dry seasons, it is thence navigable by boats drawing four feet of

water, and carrying generally from ten to twenty tons, with one square sail and four men, to Cong (which, though now but a small village, was anciently a place of considerable note, and the occasional residence of our provincial kings). They seldom sail unless before the wind; and though the lake has many islets and sunk rocks, the only serious difficulty in the navigation is at Buachaly Shoal, about four miles up the lake, and at Newcastle. These shoals could be deepened for a small sum and the whole made to admit vessels of much greater magnitude. This fine navigation, which extends about thirty miles, and into a sea-port town, seems to deserve much more attention than it has yet received. A good chart, with soundings and sailing directions, should be published, the shoals or rocks cleared or beconed, and a communication opened with the sea. Two docks only would be required, which, exclusive of property of no great value, it was estimated would cost about £6,000. These, if of sufficient dimensions to admit vessels of burden, would give Galway all the advantages of wet docks.

spacious, and is capable of affording protection to the largest fleets.² The town itself, to which vessels of upwards of four hundred tons burden can come up, is admirably situated for commerce with Europe and the Indies, and is celebrated for having formerly been one of the greatest commercial towns in the British dominions.³ Even after the civil wars of the seventeenth century, when the town was much reduced from its former opulence, the cities of Ireland ranked in the following order: Dublin, Galway, Waterford, Cork, and Londonderry;⁴ but it is now surpassed not only by all these, but also by many other places then scarcely known or heard of. This change is easily accounted for: Galway was always a Catholic town, and therefore felt more severely than others the fatal effects of those impolitic enactments which so long and so heavily afflicted the greater part of his majesty's subjects in Ireland. It would not, however, be surprising, even after all it has suffered, if it should, from its situation, yet become one of the principal emporiums for trade between these countries and the new world.⁵

2.—*Climate and Salubrity.*

Though Galway, in common with the western coast of Ireland, is more liable to rains than most other parts of the island, from its contiguity to the great Atlantic ocean, yet it is not subject to those inconveniences which generally attend a humid atmosphere. The climate is esteemed rather favourable, and epidemical distempers are seldom prevalent. The town, situate between the lake on the north, and the bay and the Atlantic on the west, always enjoyed a free circulation of air, which must have contributed to render it healthy. The facilities for convenient and excellent sea-bathing (which draw crowds of visitors annually during the summer season),

The surface of the lake is only 13 feet 9 inches above high water, and the medium rise in floods is about 3 feet. Could it be lowered a few feet (its drainage is out of the question) a great extent of land would be gained round its shore, and much valuable bottom saved from being overflowed when it swells. The mill interest, however, of Galway would be a powerful obstacle to lowering the lake, as the whole fall is occupied. Something might, nevertheless, be done by clearing and deepening the channel, taking away some eel-wires and shoals: the upper mill-wires should also be carefully attended to, there being a natural temptation to heighten them. Two wires in the river near Galway, at the upper level of the locks, above recommended, would secure a much better supply and greater fall to the different mills, and give every one of them a water carriage up and down, neither of which is enjoyed by any of them at present: the river and lake being deepened across the shoals, small vessels might run up into the lake, and carry sea-manure as a back freight for turf, which would greatly benefit the agriculture of the interior.

2 The neap tides rise in the bay from 6

to 7 feet, and the spring tides from 12 to 15. The light-houses lately erected on Mutton Island and Arran afford considerable additional security to vessels entering the bay, and the new projected quays will leave little more to be desired in this respect than a return of that commerce, without which all other advantages are unavailable.

3 Such was the statement of the Irish privy-council to Oliver Cromwell in 1657. —(Vide p. 23.)

4 Boates Natural History of Ireland, Ed., 1652.

5 The town of Galway is most advantageously situated for trade with America; and the bay, which is by far the most spacious and secure of any other on the western coast of Ireland, seems to extend its ample arms to invite the commerce of that flourishing part of the globe. It commonly happens that vessels arrive at Galway from New York in 18 and 21 days; and it is well known that more delay, trouble, danger and expense are often incurred by bringing ships round from the West and S. West coast of Ireland to the city of London, than attend the entire voyage from America to Ireland.

also conduce to the health of the inhabitants.⁶ Contagious disorders are of late scarcely heard of, owing, perhaps, to the demolition of the old fortifications, which, by giving a freer admission of air through the long and narrow streets of the town, has likewise helped to increase its salubrity.

3.—*Extent, Streets, and Buildings—Improvements Suggested.*

Galway is built on the extremity of a narrow peninsulated neck of land, which rises with a gentle ascent from the sea and river. It formerly contained within the walls (which described nearly an oval figure) 3,426 square perches, or 21 acres, 1 rood, and 26 perches, Irish plantation, by actual admeasurement. The character of this, like all other ancient cities, is that of a fortress, the greatest quantity of building crowded into the smallest space, with walls, gates and ditches of defence. For more than half a century before 1792 the fortifications had been going fast to decay: the abbey-gate was pulled down in 1779, and the remainder of these mouldering bulwarks were falling to the ground. Since that time, however, they have been almost entirely demolished, and handsome buildings are rapidly extending on all sides, so that the town now covers nearly double the space which was formerly occupied within the walls. The old Spanish-built castles which periods of turbulence and danger rendered necessary for personal security, are gradually disappearing, and convenient modern edifices are rising on their ruins. Several of these ancient structures, though some centuries built, are still in good repair, and many of them are inhabited by numerous families. They are generally square, with a small court in the centre, and an arched gate-way leading to the street: but are, however, daily giving place to more commodious dwellings, better suited to the present improved state and manners of society. Dominick-street, at the west end of the town, which contains a number of excellent houses, chiefly inhabited by many of our most respectable gentry, was laid out and built within the last mentioned period. The town has also improved

6 A chalybeate spring (of the same class as the celebrated Scarborough waters) about 20 feet below the level of the street, outside the east gate, was once in great repute here; but it has long since fallen into disuse. A spa-house had been formerly erected over it by Mr. Eyre, the proprietor, and it was for some time much frequented by company; but they afterwards gradually declined. For an analysis of this water, made in 1751, by doctor Rutty, see his treatise. Doctor Ambrose Lynch, to whom, according to that author, the public was indebted for its recommendation, informed him that he had used it only as an alternative, having given it from one to three pints; he found it operate chiefly by urine, but that, taken as far as six pints, it purged. Several of the poorer people had used it for some years with great success, and several of the doctor's patients drank it with great benefit, particularly in all nervous disorders of both sexes, scurvies, vertigoes

and chlorosis.—p. 341. This medicinal water is still used by some of the poorer classes with good effect.

Many instances of extreme longevity in Galway beyond the advanced period of a hundred years, could be here adduced, but they are omitted to make room for the tables which follow. One, however, has been esteemed worthy of selection:—On 10th February, 1814, Thomas Wilkins, esq., M.D., died at the age of 102. He was for many years an inhabitant of Galway, and surgeon of the county hospital. This gentleman entered the army in his professional capacity early in life; and it was in his arms that the immortal general Wolfe died, in the year 1753. His mode of living was the most temperate, and his senses remained unimpaired to the last. He was a lineal descendant of T. Wilkins, captain in the army, who defended Pontefract Castle against Cromwell's army, and younger brother of the late John Wilkins, bishop of Chester.

considerably since the Union. Towards the east entrance, round Meyrick-square, formerly the green, on the heights of Bohermore, and in the interior streets, several fine houses have been erected. Mr. Thomas Hynes, an eminent West-India merchant, and the Messrs. O'Connor, are deserving of particular notice for their laudable exertions in this line to improve the appearance of their native town.

Although most of the dwelling-houses are old, there are, however, several excellent private buildings interspersed throughout the town. Amongst these the following will attract particular attention:—the handsome dwelling of Mr. Daly, the late mayor, situate in Back-street (which street was so called from its backward situation), and that opposite to it, built by the late Martin Lynch; the elegant dwellings and spacious stores, in the same street, built by Messrs. Walter and John Joyce; the residence of the late Lord Ffrench, facing Middle-street (so named from its central situation); the large houses in Shop-street (so called because in this street the first shops were opened), built by the late Nicholas Lynch, of Barna; and those recently raised by Mr. Morgan Connolly; the new buildings and shops erected by Mr. Thomas Hynes, on the site of the old free-school, in High-street (a street so termed from its high or elevated situation); the handsome houses in Watergate-street, built by the late Nicholas Burke Edmond; several good houses at the Spanish-parade (a small square at the S.W. corner of the town, where the Spanish merchants were formerly accustomed to assemble); those built by the late Michael Rush at the church-yard leading to Lombard-street (a part of the town so called from the Lombards, a mercantile people of Italy, who formerly resorted here for the purpose of traffic).⁷ To these, as more recent improvements, may be added the road in the east suburbs, leading by Erasmus Smith's new school to Oranmore, the alterations making by Mr. Eyre at the green, the projected quay, the handsome bridge lately built over the river at Newtown-Smith, and the intended street to the new court-house, which, with many other private buildings in progress, add considerably to the extent and appearance of the town.

⁷ There are, besides these, the remains of several ancient houses or castles in the town, many of which are still in good repair, and inhabited. They are too numerous to be separately pointed out here; but the following are the principal:—Penrice's ancient castle, in William-street; Athy's, which lay in Lombard-street, near the barrack; Blake's mansion-house, at the rere of the Shamble barrack; the mansion of the Bodkins, of Carrowbeg, in Back-street, opposite Whitehall, and that of another branch of the same name, opposite the old Augustinian convent; the mansion-house of the Brownes, of Castle-magarret, in William-street; and that of the Darcys, near the abbey gate, on the right; the Frenches' mansion, in Market-street, now the Franciscan nunnery; also that of the Frenches, of Grenage (a younger branch of the Rahasane family),

in Middle-street, in which the assemblies are at present held; Joyes' or Joyce's house, at the corner of Market-street, in Abbeygate-street. This family was the head of the name. Kirwan's mansion, facing the south aisle and tower of the church; the court of the Lynches, of Castlecarra, built in the Spanish style, at the corner of Abbeygate-street; the Martins', of Gregans, dwelling in Market-street, nearly opposite the Franciscan convent; that of the Martins, of Gort-na-clevy at the corner of Watergate-street, near the Dominican convent; and the Skerritts' ancient residence, which faced the south side of the church. The arms of these different families may be seen in buildings, together with the names of the many places sculptured in stone on these founders and the dates of their erection. Under many of these old houses there are

From these pleasing prospects of improvement, it is painful to turn to the shamefully neglected state of the streets, which, for many years past, have been perhaps the worst paved, and least attended to, of any other in this country. From the numerous holes in the pavement, and the heaps of accumulated dirt with which they are almost continually filled, many streets are often nearly impassable, particularly in dark winter nights, when it is absolutely hazardous to venture abroad. Surely these are subjects which require the most serious and immediate attention. Although much has been said about the misapplication of the tolls and customs, which by the charters were to be applied "to the walling and paving of the town," yet it should be considered that there is not now, nor has there been for many years past (since the unprincipled alienation of the corporation property), any other fund whereout to defray the salaries of the mayor and the other municipal officers. The only remedy, therefore, for this daily increasing evil appears to be that of a local tax, to be imposed by the authority of parliament, for paving, lighting, and cleansing the streets and for establishing a sufficient police to keep a nightly watch. The advantages which the inhabitants, after a little experience, would find themselves to enjoy, would be so considerable, and the rateable contribution on each individual so trifling, that it is hoped this salutary and indispensable measure may be speedily carried into effect, with prudence, economy and zeal, for the improvement and interest of the town.

4.—*Population.*

The population of Galway is much greater than, from a superficial view of the place, would be immediately supposed.⁸ This circumstance has given rise to various contradictory computations on that head. In a former page (197 note) a view of these different statements has been given; and although the estimate there made of the inhabitants of the town and county of the town, at 40,000 souls, has been by some esteemed as overrated, the author has not as yet heard sufficient reasons to induce him to alter that

subterraneous passages, extending a considerable distance beyond the town walls, which were evidently intended for escape or refuge, in cases of siege or other dangers, in the early times, when these edifices were erected.

The singular tenures of several of these old buildings are worth noticing:—A large house in Abbeygate-street is the estate, in fee, of three several landlords; the upper part belongs to the family of Darey of Kiltolla, half the under story to the reverend James Ffrench, and the remainder of the house to Mr. Patriek Franeis, by purchase from the late celebrated dean Kirwan. A small shop nearly opposite the Exchange is the estate in fee of Miss Chawner, of Tipperary, and the remainder of the house belongs to Mr. Riekard Burke in fee simple. The fee of another shop, in the same street, is vested in Mr. Dominiek Ffrench; that of the remainder of the house is in the Joyes' family. In

the old building in High-street, commonly called the Salmon-house, the stone stairs leading to the new coffee-room, with two adjoining elosets, is the estate of Edward Jones, esq., of Rosecommon, and the remainder of the same house belongs in fee simple to Mr. Montgomery. An apartment at the rear of Lynch's Castle, in Shop-street, is the estate of colonel Anthony Ffrench; the rest of the building is the fee property of the Staunton family. There are many other similar tenures throughout the town, and they are generally held under distinct original titles.

S In a return of the population of the town and county of the town of Galway, taken under the Census Act of 1812 (communicated to the author by his highly esteemed friend, W. Shaw Mason, esq., to whom the regulation of the census was committed by government), every town-land, street, lane, etc., in the county of the town is described. From the confes-

calculation: on the contrary, when the rapid increase for the last seven years shall be considered, and that the return under the Census Act of 1812 was confessedly deficient, it is still thought the most accurate estimate of the population of Galway (including the county of the town) at the present day.

II.—CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

1.—Corporation.

The corporation of "the town and county of the town of Galway" is at present little more than a name: the ancient state and insignia of that formerly proud and opulent body have been entirely laid aside; the old and creditable offices of alderman, chamberlain, Burgess, etc., have fallen into disuse, and its possessions have been alienated; so that it now seems to be upheld by the respectable family in which it has become almost hereditary, merely for the valuable patronage which it confers,⁹ and for the parliamentary representation of the town, which is commanded by

sion however, of one of the persons by whom it was made, no doubt remains of its having been deficient in the number of inhabitants. The people in the vicinity of the town, apprehensive that a military ballot, or some similar project, was in view, evaded giving a true account; and in many places the inquirers were deterred by menaces from venturing among the villages. Being, however, esteemed accurate in all other respects, it is here given as a curious document, intimately connected with the modern description of the town. The total was given as 13,715.

⁹ The patronage here alluded to is very considerable; the several offices and places in the immediate gift or recommendation of the head of the corporation, with their annual value or income, are said to be as follow, viz.: parliamentary representation; warden of the collegiate church, £1,000; two vicars, £75 each; governor, £400; mayor, £550; recorder, standing salary £45 10s., annual value of office not ascertained; two sheriffs, standing salary £15 each, annual value of office computed at about £200; clerk of the peace, standing salary £20, annual value of office about £100; deputy ditto, about £300; port collector, £600; pro ditto, £100; port surveyor, £500; land waiter, £600; tide surveyor, £140; collector of excise, £600; pro ditto, £80; two surveyors of excise, £400; supervisor of hearths, etc., £200; gaugers, £400; tide waiters, boatmen etc., £400; distributor of stamps, £400; superintendent of fisheries, £150; weigh-master for kelp, butter, etc., £150; pilot and dock master, about £200; water bailiff, £—; clerk to collect light-house duty, £80; town-major, £100; barrack master, £300; coroner and gaoler, £200; four serjeants at mace, £4 each; sword and mace-bearers, £4 each. The salaries of the mayor, recorder, sheriffs,

and town clerk, above stated, together with £22 15s. for bread to be distributed in the church, and the lodgings of the judges of assize (£11 7s. 6d. annually), are defrayed out of the produce of the tolls and customs, which lately set for £700 a year.

The powers and privileges which the corporation of Galway formerly possessed, and to which it is still legally entitled, will be found, upon inspection of the charters contained in the appendix, to have been of a most extensive nature; of these the following was not the least conspicuous:—

Admiralty of the Bay.

By the charter of Henry VIII. the corporation obtained a grant of the port and bay, or arm of the sea which enters between the islands of Arran, and from thence runs or flows into the town. Queen Elizabeth afterwards granted that every mayor should be admiral within the town and franchises, over the islands of Arran, and from thence to the town, on both sides of the water, as well by sea as by land, and fresh waters, with all jurisdiction belonging thereto; and also that the corporation should be entitled to all wrecks of the sea, forfeitures, fines, etc., arising by reason of such admiralty; which were thenceforth accordingly enjoyed, and were afterwards confirmed by the charter of Charles II., which restored to the corporation all privileges contained in any former grants. In 1687 it was resolved in council that the old privileges, particularly that of the admiralty of the bay, should be included in the new charter of James II. This the king not only refused to concede, but even inserted a clause saving the rights of the lord high admiral. This charter soon becoming void, the old jurisdiction was again revived; but the vice-admiral of Connaught

means of the non-resident freemen. The decay, however, of such incorporations, according to the celebrated Adam Smith, Dr. Paley, and other high authorities, is not to be regretted. They were originally formed in times of necessity, and soon became universally distinguished for monopolising and intolerant principles. Even still, though the mighty and ever-moving machine of society has altered the situation of mankind and changed the state of human affairs, these associations, with very few exceptions, retain the gloom and bigotry of former ages, and seem to be the last and favourite retreats of prejudice and intolerance. If, therefore, the peace and good order of cities and towns could be preserved by domestic and resident magistrates, under the direct control of the government of the country, there would not be much reason to regret the decline of these feudal institutions.

2.—Courts—Municipal Regulations Necessary.

For the numerous, though at present dormant or obsolete, privileges of the corporation of Galway, the reader is referred to the charters which will be found in the appendix. The mayor and recorder keep a court of record, which takes cognizance of civil pleas to any amount; and also hold sessions at stated periods for the trial of personal misdemeanours: but felonies and daily increasing crimes of magnitude are referred to the general assizes, which are held twice a year in the town. The want of an efficient police and a more active magistracy is loudly complained of by the principal part of the inhabitants, who to this deficiency entirely attribute the many street and house robberies which have been recently committed. That

frequently interrupted the corporation, and complained to the lords of the admiralty of the claims made by the town to this jurisdiction. In 1701 the secretary of state endeavoured by letter to deter the mayor from persisting in the right; but the corporation having still continued to exercise it, prince George of Denmark, lord high-admiral of England, presented a memorial to queen Anne in council for a quo warranto against the town. Her majesty accordingly, by order dated 4th December, 1704, referred the matter to the duke of Ormond, who, on the 7th of March following, directed the attorney and solicitor-general of Ireland to examine and report on the occasion. They accordingly issued their summons, and a common council having immediately been called in the town, it was resolved to defend the right and forthwith to lay their title before these law officers; whose report does not appear to have been favourable, for proceedings were soon after commenced. In answer to these the town-sheriffs returned, that the admiralty was held under several charters; and a voluminous plea to that effect was soon afterwards put in, which still remains of record in the office of the Treasurer's Remembrancer of the Exchequer. After this no further proceedings were taken; and the

mayor has been ever since left at liberty to assume, if he pleased, the empty title of admiral of the bay.

When Galway was a place of commerce, with numerous ships daily crowding into its harbour, this office was one of importance and emolument: but when that commerce ceased, and but a solitary vessel sometimes visited this neglected port, no wonder that the privilege, though before so carefully guarded, should gradually sink into decay. Accordingly, not the least mention is made of it for more than a century past, except on a solitary occasion, in the year 1745, when a whale, which happened to be stranded on the island of Mynish, in the bay, was taken by Mr. John Digby, proprietor of the islands of Arran, who extracted from it a considerable quantity of oil. This oil was seized by the mayor, who claimed it as admiral of the bay, and as a royalty or franchise belonging under the charter of Elizabeth to the corporation. A common council was held, and resolutions were entered into to support this claim; but Mr. Digby having issued a replevin and regained the property, the point was abandoned, and those privileges, which were once esteemed so important, have never since been heard of.

some municipal regulations are necessary seems to be conceded on all sides; and it is, therefore, hoped that the proper authorities will take such speedy means to remedy these defects as the nature of the evils complained of and the circumstances of the town so urgently require.

III.—COMMERCE, TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

1.—*Decline of Commerce—Causes.*

In several parts of this volume the former extensive commerce of Galway has been mentioned; and the causes of its decline have been so distinctly pointed out that it is considered unnecessary to repeat them here: it is esteemed equally so to spend much time in refuting the illiberal aspersions attempted to be cast on this ancient, respectable, and long persecuted town by a recent English tourist of some celebrity,¹⁰ who, from "report," thought proper to attribute its decline to want of principle in its merchants—an imputation which almost every page in this work incontestibly proves to be unfounded. Had this gentleman but for a moment reflected on the past situation of this too frequently misrepresented country, he would have perceived that the decay of this, and of many other places in Ireland, is entirely attributable to civil commotions, to penal laws, and to the many mercantile restrictions imposed in favour of England for the two last centuries. It is, therefore, hoped that he may consider it an act of justice to a respectable class of individuals to retract what might have been perhaps inadvertently advanced, but which certainly affects the credit of a work otherwise deserving well of Ireland.

2.—*Exports and Imports.*

The commerce of Galway has, it is true, long since disappeared; but the causes of its decay have been already detailed. Wine, formerly its principal article of traffic, is no longer imported in any quantity;¹¹ and the

¹⁰ Mr. Gilbert Wakefield. The words of this traveller are as follow:—"Galway has declined much of late years, in consequence, according to report, of the bad faith of its merchants, and want of punctuality in their payments. But however this may be, it is certain that it is a place of very little trade, although it enjoys an admirable situation, and almost every advantage that could be desired."—Thus, in a very flippant paragraph, qualified by the commonplace phrase, "however this may be," has this gentleman thought proper to describe the mercantile body of a respectable town. When from sources such as these our English neighbours collect their information and form their opinions of Ireland, is it any wonder that numberless prejudices against this country should exist in the minds of that liberal and otherwise enlightened people? It is, however, to be hoped that the day is not far distant when they shall be undeceived, when ignorance and illiberality shall yield to justice and to truth,

and when that union of interest and affection, which ought to subsist between both countries (and which is so essentially necessary for their mutual well-being) shall take place, and indissolubly connect the two islands for ever.

¹¹ Latocnaye, a French emigrant, who travelled through Ireland in 1797 attributed the decline of trade in Galway to a humorous cause, somewhat different from that of Mr. Wakefield, but equally credible. "A wine merchant," says this lively traveller, "told me the cause, in his opinion, of the decay of trade in Galway." "Before they knew how to make wine in France," said he, "it was made here in Galway." "What!" said I, "sure there were never vines in this country." "No," said he, "but the wine in France was barely the juice of the grape, and it was brought to Galway to render it drinkable: unfortunately the merchants of Bourdeaux know how to prepare it now as well as we did, and this has ruined our trade." —*Rambles Through Ireland.*

provision trade, which formerly flourished here, has long since deserted this port.¹² Commerce has of late been chiefly confined to the export of corn; and for this branch, which commenced about the year 1805, the town is peculiarly well circumstanced, from its local situation and great facilities for water carriage. Since that period the agriculture of the interior has been much improved, owing to the encouragement given to the farmers by the merchants of the town. The wheat and barley brought to market are esteemed of a highly superior quality; but the oats are in general of a very inferior kind. It has been calculated that, for some years past, the export of corn from this port averaged annually about 6,000 tons. Kelp is also an old and considerable article of trade.¹³

It is principally manufactured in Connemara, and is brought to the town by sea. For some years past about 4,000 tons were annually exported, a considerable portion to the northern parts of Ireland, where it was much used in the manufacture of linen, and the remainder to England and Scotland. The price and consumption of this article, however, have of late very much diminished. Although, in 1808, it sold in Galway for £13 a ton, at present it seldom exceeds £4;¹⁴ and the yearly exportation is also reduced

12 The great cattle fairs of Ballinasloe (by far the most extensive in these islands) were, it is said, originally established at that place from its contiguity to Galway. These famous marts have subsisted from a very early period, although no patent for holding them appears on record before 8th June, 1757, when Richard Trench, esq., of Garbally, obtained a patent for holding two fairs, on 15th May and 18th July, in every year. Once, however, established, they have ever since continued, although the cause of their origin, viz., the provision trade of Galway, has long since ceased.

13 The manufacture of kelp commenced in the neighbourhood of Galway about the year 1700, and the late Andrew French and his grandfather were the first that exported it from the town. In 1762 the former gentleman stated before a committee of the house of commons that the usual load of a boat was from five to ten or twelve tons; and that he had known one boat to make from fifteen to twenty trips yearly from the place where the kelp was burned to the quay. He also stated that kelp was then worth from 25s. to 35s. per ton; but that about 50 years before it was worth only from 14s. to 21s. per ton.—*Com. Jour.*—In 1776, about 3,000 tons were annually exported.—*Young's Tour.*—After this period it was found that several gross frauds were practised in making this article by mixing it with sand, stones and other grit matter, to the manifest injury, as was complained, of the linen trade of the kingdom. Inspectors were accordingly appointed; but even this precaution was found insufficient to prevent its adulteration, in consequence of which the Connemara kelp has of late years

fallen into disrepute.

14 This depression of price, with many other reasons equally forcible, has induced many to conclude that it would be much more beneficial for the land-owners and inhabitants of Connemara in general to encourage the agriculture of this widely extended district in preference to the manufacture of the above fluctuating, and now unproductive, article. Several ingenious calculations have been entered into on the subject. To make the 4,000 tons of kelp annually produced in Connemara, it has been supposed that 50,000 tons of seaweed are probably consumed, which might suffice (being found to form an excellent compost for producing potatoes, oats, barley and flax), for manuring 4,000 acres of land. These lands, which now produce little or nothing, would, during a course of cropping, yield to the landlord from £2 to £3, and to the tenant from £12 to £20 per annum, and would afterwards be let in permanent pasture at from 5s. to 10s. an acre at least. The continuance of this system, even for a few years, would entirely alter the face of the country, and ameliorate the present miserable condition of the inhabitants; the barren mountains would become fertile, and the neglected population would be no longer depending for existence on the fluctuating produce of their kelp, or their ill-managed and precarious crops, on the failure of which their wretchedness is inconceivable.

Now, according to Mr. Nimmo's report, the expense of cutting the weed and burning the kelp (although generally done by the tenants and cottagers on the spot, who begin cutting in May, and employ on it all the time that can be spared from the

to about 2,500 tons, which is supposed to be occasioned by its inferiority to the Scottish kelp in foreign markets. Of late years several cargoes of fine marble have been exported from the extensive quarries near the town; but this branch of trade seems also on the decline.¹⁵ The principal imports are American flaxseed and timber, Swedish and Norway plank and deals, Petersburg hemp and tallow, Swedish and English iron, steel, coals, etc. Messrs. John and James Burke, John Moore, Messrs. Denis and Hugh Clarke, Messrs. Martin and Fitzgerald, James Costello and Anthony Lynch are at present the only merchants who carry on whatever little trade frequents this port. Although the quays and harbour are neglected, a convenient custom-house was built in 1807; it is a plain building, not very extensive, but at the same time fully sufficient for all the business transacted in it. The overplus duties, after defraying the expenses of the port establishment, add but very little to the national revenue, notwithstanding the praiseworthy exertions of the Hon. William le Poer Trench, brother of the Earl of Clancarty, and late collector of Galway, to promote the commercial interest of the town.

3.—*Corn Trade, Mills, Linen Manufacture, Breweries, etc.*

What remains to be mentioned concerning the trades and manufactories carried on here will occupy but very little space: of these the flour business is the principal. The warm limestone soil of the country about Galway produces wheat of the finest quality, which meets a ready sale in the market, and this trade has consequently increased very considerably within the last few years. In 1790 there were but two flour mills in the town,

turf and potatoes until Michaelmas), reckoned from 30s. to £2 per ton (though in truth, he says, it cannot be well ascertained, being combined with the rents of the lands), besides 5s. a ton for freight to Galway from the bays. "An able kelper may make 3 tons; the average is two or three men in one house, who may make from 7 to 8 tons in a season. The number employed would, therefore, appear to be 2,000. About 20 days' work are required to cut and land the weed for 1 ton; the quantity of weed which makes one ton and a half is amply sufficient to manure an acre, which would be done at the rate of 45s. Seeing that the expense of carrying out the weed to the field is as great as that of drying and burning the kelp, so that many of the farmers find it more for their interest to employ the weed in agriculture; this disposition is likely to become general in the present state of the markets, and seems deserving of encouragement. The benefit that would accrue to Connemara, from the transfer of manure and labour to the improvement of the land, is perhaps not rated too high when we say it would annually produce as much as the present rental."—The author trusts he may be excused for thus extending these notes; the important facts and conclusions which they contain is the only

justification he can offer, accompanied at the same time with a hope that some good may possibly result from rendering these facts more generally known.

¹⁵ There are some extensive marble quarries near Galway, out of which many of the ancient and modern edifices of the town were entirely built. The principal are those of Anglingham, near Menlo, and of Merlin-park. The marble of both these extensive quarries is of a beautiful jet-black colour, and is susceptible of the highest polish; it is fine-grained, soft, and easily wrought, and is much prized by artists. It occurs in considerable masses, with a straight fracture, on thin strata of plastic clay, or argillaceous paste; and solid blocks, often weighing upwards of 4 tons, and measuring from 18 to 20 feet long, and from 8 to 10 feet broad, are frequently raised, particularly at Anglingham. Mr. Stanley Ireland, some years since, shipped several cargoes to London, Liverpool, Bristol, Cork, Dublin, etc.: he also established a marble-yard in the town and employed several workmen, who wrought a variety of elegant monuments, plain and sculptured chimney-pieces, tablets slabs, sideboard-tables, etc.; but at present this trade is rather declining. The Merlin-park quarry was opened in 1814, and Mr. Blake, the proprietor, exported a

but at present there are twenty-three, which are kept continually at work,¹⁶ each possessing, even in the driest season, a constant supply of water from Lough Corrib. The fall and rapidity of the river render it in this respect peculiarly advantageous; and the facility of internal conveyance by the lake to so many points of the country might, with very little exertion, be made incalculably beneficial to the town. The quantity of wheat ground and dressed is very considerable; it is calculated to amount annually to upwards of 12,000 tons, part of which supplies the adjacent counties, and the remainder is generally sent by the canal boats to Dublin. Besides these, there are six oat-mills, two malt-mills, and three fulling-mills, which are constantly employed. There are also a bleach mill and green on the Nuns' Island, but the linen manufacture does not appear to have been a favourite branch of industry; and, therefore, a linen hall, formerly erected in the west suburbs, has long since gone to decay.¹⁷ There is, in the same quarter, an extensive paper-mill, erected about 1785, and now conducted by Mr. Reuben Hughes: here different sorts of paper are manufactured, with which the Dublin markets are sometimes supplied. A public brewery, on an extensive scale, has been for some years past established at Newcastle, near the town, the property of Mr. Persse, of Roxboro', and another at Madeira Island, beyond the west bridge. The porter made here, but particularly in the former, has been much esteemed, and had for some time a good deal superseded the use of ardent spirits among the lower orders. This, however, interfered but little with Mr. Joyce's extensive distillery at Newtown Smith, in which superior spirits have, for many years past, been distilled under the superintendence of Mr. Finn.—The excise establishment of Galway, it is supposed, produces proportionably more to the public revenue than the duties of the port.

4.—*Chamber of Commerce.*

Several of our most respectable merchants and traders have lately asso-

few cargoes; but the industry, perseverance and resolution to encounter not only preliminary expense, but even temporary losses, to bring works of this kind to perfection, do not seem to have attended these undertakings. There is, however, little doubt but that if these quarries were worked with spirit and judgment, they would in a short time become a source of considerable emolument, and fully reward that attention which they so much deserve. At present a few poor artists, who reside in the the suburbs, scarcely support themselves by occasionally preparing tombstones, chimney-pieces, hearth-stones, etc.

¹⁶ Amongst these there are several very superior mills: two erected at the Nuns Island by Mr. Francis Fitz-Gerald and Mr. Michael Regan deserve particular notice. Their storage kilns, and general machinery are superior to any other of the kind in the province. Mr. Regan's mill was commenced on 4th May, 1813; it is a large double building 80 feet long, and 41 broad in the clear, erected on five arches over one of the branches of the river, and on a fall of 10 feet 10 inches.

It receives light through 100 glass windows. The machinery is entirely of metal, and the whole was prepared according to the plan and under the inspection of Mr. John Mackie, an ingenious Scotch engineer and mill-wright. There are four pairs of grinding-stones, which may be put in motion by one water-wheel, either separately or all together. Two pairs grind 30 cwts. and one pair 20 cwts. of grain in an hour. The entire building, it is said, cost upwards of £10,000.

¹⁷ In 1760 the first cargo of flaxseed (consisting of 300 hogsheads), was imported into Galway by Andrew Ffrench. Of these but 100 could be sold, and there were little more than 20 looms at the time employed in the town; the cultivation of flax, however, was gradually encouraged, insomuch that, in 1776, the annual importation had risen from 1,500 to 2,300 hogsheads, and the number of looms increased to 130.—*Young's Tour.*—At present there is but one bleach-green, situate on Earl's Island, near the town, which is carefully conducted by Mr. Mitchell.

ciated themselves as a Chamber of Commerce to promote the interests of trade. It is surely unnecessary to say, that as the objects of this laudable association are of the most vital importance to the town, it becomes the duty, nay, more, the interest, of every individual to forward those objects. Without a spirit of industry, says an accurate observer, no trade can flourish; and without a persevering attention to the interests of commerce, even the advantages of situation will have no effect. That the prosperity of the town would lead to that of the country requires very little proof; it is, in fact, a self-evident proposition; for is it not clear that the produce of land would always find a ready export market; and, as it could never fail of a permanent consumption, would not the value of estates be consequently increased?¹⁸ It appears, therefore, to be the interest of the country gentlemen and farmers to forward the objects of this institution; to their united exertions the author wishes every success, convinced as he is, that the extension of commerce is the only certain means of rendering this country rich, flourishing and happy.

IV.—FISHERIES OF THE RIVER AND BAY.

1.—*Salmon Fishery.*

Amongst the many natural advantages of which Galway and the surrounding district can boast, the fishings of the bay and river are not the least considerable. The salmon fishery is one of the most valuable in the kingdom,¹⁹ and from a very early period has been a source of emolument.

¹⁸ Wool, the natural staple of this province, is sent in vast quantities in its raw state to the other parts of Ireland, but mostly to Great Britain. Now, should Galway become a wool port, or that the commodity could be exported from the town in a manufactured state, would not this single circumstance have the most beneficial effect on the surrounding country? For example, can anyone doubt but that an industrious people, gradually increasing in wealth and numbers, would, in process of time, cover the hitherto unproductive district of Connemara, of the existence of which it has been pointedly said, that its woollen stockings alone afforded the only proof to many people in Ireland?

¹⁹ The salmon fishery of Galway originally passed to the earl of Ulster, under the grant of Henry III., and from him descended, with the other possessions of the De Burgoes, to Philippa, the sole heiress and representative of that powerful family, who, in 1368, intermarried with Edmund, earl of March and Ulster, upon whose death, in 1381, it was seized into the king's hands during the minority of their son and heir.—By letters patent of Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford and Marquis of Dublin (to whom the sovereignty of Ireland was committed by Richard II.), dated at Dublin the 16th of January, 1386, the salmon fishery of the town and

water of Galvy, in Conact, was granted to Richard Parrys, burgess of Bristowe, for two years, at twenty marks yearly; and Richard de Burgo, and Henry Blake, of Galvy, burgess, were commanded not to interfere in any manner from thenceforth with the said fishery.—Rot. Pat. 10 Rich. II.—After this it appears that Walter de Bermyngham, lord of Athenry, acquired some interest in this fishery, for in 1389 he made complaint to the lord justice and council “that certain Irishry of the lower parts of Connaught had fished the water of the said Walter in these parts, where they were accustomed to take salmon against his will, and sell the same to the people and merchants of Galvy, to his great loss.”—The sheriff of Connaught, and the bailiffs, provost, and commonalty of the town were accordingly commanded, under a penalty, not to buy any of said salmon for the future, but to cause proclamation to be publicly made, that none should thenceforth be bought from those Irishry, and to ascertain who should be found to transgress in that respect, and them to imprison until due amends should be made to said Walter in the premises.—Rot. Pat. 13 Rich. II.

During the succeeding century the property of the river was sometimes in the De Burgoes' possession, and at other times it appears vested in the crown. In 1520, William de Burgh granted the fish-

In 1754 the weirs were leased for 20 years at £130 a year. In 1776 and 1790 they brought £200 yearly, but at the latter period they were worth considerably more; since 1800 they frequently produced upwards of £500 a year, having increased in value in consequence of some recent legal decisions in favour of the proprietors.²⁰

The quantity of salmon taken yearly is very considerable, and it is esteemed of the best quality. Very little is exported, almost the entire being consumed in the town and the adjacent counties. The fish are sometimes taken by nets out of the weirs and in great quantities preserved alive in a house set apart for that purpose, by which means it can be always had fresh and of any size. The average price for some years past is about a shilling a pound, but it fluctuates according to the scarcity or abundance

ery to the Franciscan friars.—King 312.—On the 13th Nov., 1521, Henry VIII. granted licence to Jenet Lynch, widow, and Anthony Lynch, merchant, to have three nets upon the river of Galway, between the bridge and the sea, one near the great rock (this rock was afterwards called Carrig-a-phreaghane, or the Crow's-rock, and was covered over when the pier-head was built); another near Panrise and the third near Porter's-place, to take salmon and other fish as was customary, and to build one water-mill upon the said water wherever they should think proper; and also to build a public oven in the said town, to bake bread as well for strangers as for the inhabitants, to hold during the king's pleasure, at the yearly rent of 10s.—Fiant 25 Hen. VIII.—They afterwards petitioned the king, stating that they had, at great labour and expense, made up the said three nets, and erected the water-mill and public oven; whereupon by a further grant, in the 24th year of his reign, the entire was granted to them and their heirs, by the service of 13s. 4d. yearly. Henceforth the Lynch family gradually acquired the principal part of the fishings of the river which continued in their possession for a considerable period.—Others of the inhabitants, however, sometimes obtained similar grants. On Oct. 2, 1532, licence was granted to Richard Martin to have three places upon the river, between the bridge and the sea, for three nets to take salmon and other fish, at 6s. 8d. yearly. Thomas Martin had a similar licence to have five places for six nets.—In 1536, Marcus Lynch Fitz-Stephen had a similar licence; and on the 26th Sept., 1538, Roger Challoner, one of the ushers of the king's chamber, had a grant of the water-mill, called Martyn's mill, and the fishings of the river (except the three places demised to Thomas Martyn) escheated to the crown, for forty years, at 20s. yearly.—Rot. Pat. 30 Hen. VIII.

The resident families of Lynch and D'Arcy afterwards became possessed of the fishery, which they enjoyed until 1652. By an adjudication of Cromwell's commis-

sioners, dated 19th Nov., 1656, it was found that the former family had been so seized, but that for this and other properties lost by them in Galway, they obtained compensation in the county of Clare.—On 28th April, 1657, the salmon and all other fishings of the river were let to Paule Dodd for one year for the interest of the state, except two parts out of three, formerly belonging to alderman James Darcy, which Dodd claimed in fee simple.—On 27th July, 1663, Sir George Preston, amongst other things, obtained a grant of all the salmon fishery, pike, eel, and other fishings of and in the river of Galway. This grant was afterwards confirmed by patent, dated 25th April, 1669, and was further recognised and secured by the act of settlement. This patentee had two daughters, one of whom married Mr. John Eyre, of Eyrecourt, who, in her right, became entitled to the fishery; and in 1710 their son disposed of his interest to Mr. Edward Eyre, of Galway, in whose family it has ever since continued.

20 It was for a long time a matter of dispute whether those deriving under the patent possessed an exclusive right, or, in law phrase, whether the river was a several fishery, in which only the owner had a right to fish, or a common fishery, in which the public indiscriminately might exercise such a right. The former title was never acknowledged, and the question having at length become a subject of legal investigation, a several fishery was effectually established. There was also, from time immemorial, a gap in the river called the main gap, through which small boats sometimes, though with difficulty, passed up and down from the lake to the sea: this particular gap was always kept open from February to August (being the fishing half year) when all the others were shut: the proprietors, finding that this diminished the value of the weirs, caused it to be closed: this also became a subject of legal contention, but it was finally determined that the gap should be, and it has ever since accordingly been kept open.

of salt water fish taken in the bay. On the whole, this salmon fishery, if sufficient capital were expended on it, and that a proper system was once introduced, would prove a source of never-failing emolument to the proprietors, and of considerable benefit and convenience to the town.

2.—Fishings of the Bay.

Valuable as is the fishery of the river of Galway, that of the bay is considerably more so.²¹ No part of the Irish coast abounds with a greater variety of all sorts of fish, and yet very few fisheries have been so imperfectly cultivated. The fishermen here, particularly those of the Claddagh village,²² are very numerous, upwards of 2,500 hands being employed in

21 In 1762 it appeared in evidence before the Irish house of commons that "the fishery in the harbour and bay of Galway is remarkably good, that there is the best herring and cod fishery there in the kingdom, and a cod-bank near Bophin, about a night's draft from the shore. The bay of Galway on the outside of the Aran Isles is remarkable for sun-fish, which are there in plenty, and of such value, that if a boat be out for two months and takes one sun-fish, the owners think themselves repaid. The fishermen of Galway supply the city of Limerick with sea-fish, and a great part of the inland county. In the fishing season about 200 boats are employed in the bay and harbour, of which about 160 belong to the town, and the rest to the county of Clare side of the harbour."—*Com. Jour.* Vol. VII. A.D. 1762.

According to Dr. Young (whose information is generally correct) there were in 1776 from "200 to 250 boats belonging to the town, 40 or 50 of which were employed in the spring fishery for cod, hake, mackerel, etc. These boats are from 4 to 6 tons, some 9; they cost in building £20 a boat, and the nets and tackle about £15. The nets are of hemp tanned with bark; there are 5 to 6 men to a boat; they fish by shares dividing into sixty; they have had this fishing time immemorial. The plenty of fish decreased these 15 years. A middling night's take is 5,000 fish; all they get is sold unto the country, and the demand is so far from being answered that many cargoes are brought in from the north. The fish sell at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 2d. a hundred."—The Doctor further adds—"On the coast of Conomarra there is, from the 10th of April to the 10th of May, a fishery of sun-fish which is done by the herring-boats; one fish is reckoned worth £5; 40 or 50 boats employed on this."—*Young's Tour.*

CLADDAGH FISHING VILLAGE.

22 The following short statistical account of this singular colony (which, though situate within a quarter of a mile of Galway, is as different in habits, manners and character from the natives of the town as if they were of another country), may not, it is hoped, be thought altogether uninteresting:

Situation and Extent.

The Claddagh (an Irish word which signifies the seashore) is a village situate on the estate of Mr. Whaley, near the strand, about a quarter of a mile to the west of Galway. It is irregularly built, but very extensive, and intersected into several streets. The number of houses or cabins, which are all thatched, was returned, in 1812, at 468, inhabited by 500 families, consisting of 1,050 males and 1,286 females, but the population is now (1820) considerably greater being supposed to exceed 3,000 souls. It is a very ancient village, and, according to tradition, was the first residence of the settlers in this quarter; a circumstance not very unlikely, from its contiguity to the bay and consequent convenience for the purpose of fishing, which appears to have been their original occupation. Previously to 1808, the streets and exterior of this large village were as remarkable for want of cleanliness as the interior of most of the houses was for neatness and regularity. About that time captain Hurdis, of the royal navy, then commanding the sea fencibles of this district, persuaded the fishermen to appropriate a small portion of their weekly pay for the purpose of paving and cleansing about their houses and since that time it has been observed that they have got rid of many of those contagious disorders which generally prevail in large irregular villages.

Internal Regulations.

This colony from time immemorial has been ruled by one of their own body, periodically elected, who somewhat resembles the Brughaid or head villager of ancient times, when every clan resided in its hereditary canton. This individual, who is dignified with the title of mayor, in imitation of the head municipal officer of the town, regulates the community according to their own peculiar laws and customs, and settles all their fishery disputes. His decisions are so decisive and so much respected that the parties are seldom known to carry their differences before a legal tribunal, or to trouble the civil magistrates. They neither understand nor trouble themselves about politics, consequently in the most turbulent

the inner bay alone; and though they sometimes exhibit a great shew of industry, they are still so wedded to old customs that they invariably reject, with the most inveterate prejudice, any new improvement in their fishing apparatus, which is consequently now very little superior to that used centuries ago by their ancestors. The consequence is that the great mass of wealth which here lies engulfed in the bosom of the deep has been hitherto but partially explored; and the riches which yearly flow into this extensive inlet of the ocean are suffered again to depart through the indolence, and sometimes superstitious prejudices, of this otherwise useful and meritorious body of men. When they do not themselves think proper to fish, they invariably prevent every other from attempting it, viewing, with all the monopolizing spirit of any corporation, the bay as their exclusive domain, on which, to use their own words, they never admit any trespasser; and, therefore, should a single boat from any other district venture out to fish without the concurrence of the Claddagh body, it does so at the

times their loyalty has never been questioned, and they are exempt from all government taxes. Their mayor is no way distinguished from any of the other villagers, except that his boat is generally decorated with a white sail, and may be seen when at sea (at which time he acts as admiral), with colours flying at the mast-head, gliding through their fleet with some appearance of authority. As fishing and farming are seldom followed by the same individual, the labours of these people are solely confined to the sea. Their only occupation is fishing; they never trouble themselves with tillage; a milch cow and a potato garden are equally rare among them.

Fishing Craft, Sea Implements, Sea Excursions, etc.

Previously to 1790, the Claddagh fishing boats were little more than half the size of those used at present. This small craft seldom ventured beyond the Isles of Aran, or more than half an hour's sail from land, but generally coasted along the shores of Conamara, and, on the first appearance of a smart breeze or sudden change of weather, immediately ran for shelter into the next creek or harbour. From that period, however, the fishermen began to build their boats of larger dimensions; the ordinary size of the common sailing boats at present is from 8 to 10 tons, and some of the largest from 12 to 14. A boat of this description generally costs from £40 to £50, exclusive of nets and fishing implements, and of these, it is said, there are now about 250 belonging to the village, besides a great number of smaller boats impelled by oars. In the former the fishermen frequently go round to Limerick, and even more to the southward, laden with fish, and also towards Westport and Sligo on the west; and the dexterity and intrepidity with which this hardy race meet and brave the boisterous element, in which they mostly live, is often surprising. When

on shore they are principally employed in attending to and repairing their boats, sails, rigging, cordage, etc., and in making, drying, or repairing their nets and spilletts, in which latter employment they are generally assisted by the women, who spin the hemp and yarn for the nets. In consequence of their strict attention to these particulars very few accidents happen at sea and lives are seldom lost among them. Whatever time remains after these avocations they generally spend in regaling themselves with their favourite beverage, whiskey, and in assembling in groups to consult ~~about~~ their maritime affairs, on which occasions they usually arrange their fishing excursions. When preparing for sea, hundreds of their women and children for some days before crowd the neighbouring strands, digging for worms to bait their hooks. The men carry in their boats some potatoes, oaten-cakes, fire and water, but never admit any spirituous liquor. Thus equipped, they depart for their usual "fishing grounds," and sometimes remain several days away. Their return (especially if heavily laden) is joyfully hailed by their wives and children, who meet them on the shore. They are immediately regaled at the next public house; the fish instantly becomes the property of the women (the men after landing never trouble themselves further about it), and they dispose of it to a poorer class of fishermen, who retail it at market. The annual value of this fishery cannot be well ascertained, but it must amount to a considerable sum, from the multitude of families exclusively and independently supported by it alone.

The approach of the harvest and winter herring fishery is known by the flocks of sea fowl which appear in these seasons, hovering with an unusual noise over their prey in various parts of the bay. It is also usually preceded by an abundant take of large coarse fish such as cod, ling, pollock, etc., and the sea also appears in

risk of being destroyed. Long and serious disputes also subsisted between them and the inhabitants round the bay, as to the mode of fishing by trawling, which though the latter always practised, was invariably and outrageously resisted by the fishermen. A number of gentlemen, convinced of the great advantages to be derived from cultivating this valuable fishery, lately formed themselves into a company; and having at considerable expense fitted out several boats, provided with legal nets and other necessary materials, their exertions were crowned with success. The undertaking while it continued proved highly beneficial to the proprietors, and promised to be much more so; but the Claddagh fishermen, jealous of an infringement on what they called their rights, resolved to suppress this spirit of enterprise by violent means. They accordingly attacked the company's boats, destroyed their nets, cut their sails and cables, threw their anchors overboard, and ill-treated the crews. The gentleman, however, with whom the undertaking had principally originated, and whose property to a con-

many places luminous by night. There are several other unerring prognostics, well known to the fishermen, which proclaim the approach of this fishery. Immediately on its being ascertained, the mayor or admiral of the Claddagh dispatches reconnoitring boats to prevent poachers or stragglers, with full powers to take and destroy their nets and boats if found fishing (or, according to their own phraseology, trespassing), until all shall have an equal chance by a general fishing. For one or two days previous to this the entire Claddagh is in commotion, making preparations for the excursion. On the appointed day all the boats round the bay (which generally muster about 500 large and small) rendezvous at the quay, and, upon a signal given, all sail out at once in regular order. The beauty of this sight is inconceivable, and when viewed from one of the heights about the town, is perhaps one of the most gratifying that can be well imagined. When they arrive at the "fishing grounds" another signal is given by the "admiral"; the nets are instantly set, and every boat is then left at liberty to make the best use of its time. When the great shoal of herrings arrives, it is observed that, in order to spawn, they separate into several smaller schools, which fill all the creeks and harbours; here they are followed by the fishermen and taken. On the return home of the Claddagh boats, the women, as before, exclusively possess themselves of the produce of their labour.

Manners and Customs, etc.

From what has been already said it may be concluded that the inhabitants of the Claddagh are an unlettered race, but they seldom have either inclination or time to be otherwise. They rarely speak English, and even their native language, the Irish, they pronounce in a harsh, discordant tone, sometimes scarcely intelligible to the

town's-people. It is said that they considered it a kind of reproach either to speak English or to send their children to school, and that a schoolmaster amongst them would be considered a phenomenon; but of late there are some exceptions to this rule. How far education would make these poor people happier in themselves or more useful members of society is a matter of doubt, but it is certain that the trial has never been made, although a most respectable convent lies at the head of their village, to which they are liberal benefactors. This observation is not here intended as any reflection on that reverend community; perhaps their exertions have proved fruitless; and it is well known that the habits of fishermen are nearly the same in all countries. Here they seem a happy, contented race, and, satisfied with their own society, seldom seek or are ambitious of that of others. Strangers, for whom they have an utter aversion, they never suffer to reside amongst them. The women possess unlimited control over their husbands, the produce of whose labours they exclusively manage, allowing the men little more money than suffices to keep their boats in repair; but they have the policy, at the same time, to keep them plentifully supplied with their usual luxuries, whiskey, brandy and tobacco, of which they themselves also liberally partake. They are equally illiterate with their husbands, and very seldom speak English, but are more shrewd and intelligent in their dealings. In their domestic concerns, the general appearance of cleanliness is deserving of particular praise; the wooden ware with which every little dwelling is stored rivals in colour the whitest delft.

Marriages.

It has been remarked that among this numerous colony matrimonial connections are seldom formed beyond their native vil-

siderable amount had been thus wantonly destroyed, represented these daring outrages to Government, who gave every possible and prompt assistance on the occasion. The commissioners of customs at the same time directed that the measurement of the meshes of drag or other sea-nets should be three and a half inches from knot to knot, to be taken diagonally. It is therefore hoped that those disgraceful scenes, the effects of which have been so injurious to the entire community (but to none, if properly considered, more than to the infatuated perpetrators themselves), will never again be repeated.

Notwithstanding these defects, a great quantity and variety of fish are taken in the bay; amongst which the following are to be had daily in the public market during their proper seasons, viz. : herrings in great quantities, turbot of the largest and finest kind, soal, plaice, cod, haddock, hake, whiting, ling, mullet, black and white pollock, mackrel, bream, eel, gurnet, and several other varieties, with abundance of lobsters, crabs, cray-fish, oysters, shrimps, cockles, muscles, etc., and at very reasonable prices.

3.—*Herring Fishery.*

The herring fishery, which is the most valuable on the coast, sets in twice every year, first in harvest and afterwards in winter. For some years past the herrings, from some unknown cause, make their appearance much later than formerly : the winter fishery, which usually began early in Nov-

lage. They generally intermarry with each other at an early age; and St. Patrick's day, the May and September fairs, but particularly midsummer eve, are the usual seasons for forming these alliances. During these periodical festivities the young man generally singles out the object of his choice. A marriage is commonly preceded by an elopement; but no disappointment or dishonourable advantage arising from that circumstance has ever been known amongst them. A reconciliation between the young couple and their respective friends generally takes place the morning after the elopement; the clergyman's part of the ceremony is then performed, and the nuptials are solemnised with a boisterous kind of merriment usual only on these occasions. A cabin is soon provided for the new-married pair, who now, in their turn, commence house-keepers. The parents, if in good circumstances, contrive to supply the price of a boat (or at least a share in one) for the husband, and this, with a few articles of furniture, commonly constitute the entire of their worldly possessions. The women are generally prolific, and the fine, healthy children always to be seen in great numbers at the Claddagh are seldom excelled even in more opulent communities. Although the women are handsome, infidelity is a crime never heard of, and jealousy is equally unknown. Indeed, in every instance the relative duties are here piously fulfilled; and, in particular, the care and respect with which they treat

their aged parents are deserving of the highest praise.

Amusements.

Drinking, dancing, and listening to music are their principal amusements: the feast of St. Patrick is one of their grand gala days. After pouring copious libations to the honour of the patron saint during the forenoon of this festival, they assemble towards evening in groups to partake of plentiful repasts at their favourite public houses. Here they and their families continue for two or three days in one continued scene of merriment and inebriety, and never, during the happy octave, so much as think of going to sea. At other times the Sunday and holiday evenings are entirely devoted to dancing; and, though these people are passionately fond of such music as itinerant pipers and fiddlers can afford, yet it has been remarked that even a passable song has never been heard amongst them. The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (24th June) they celebrate by a very peculiar kind of pageantry. On the evening of that day the young and old assemble at the head of the village; and their mayor, whose orders are decisive, adjusts the rank, order and precedence of this curious procession. They then set out, headed by a band of music, and march with loud and continued huzzas and acclamations of joy, accompanied by crowds of people, through the principal streets and suburbs of the town: the young men all uniformly

ember end ended on Christmas eve, does not now commence until the end of February or beginning of March, but the vast shoals annually taken are astonishing. The herrings are larger and esteemed of a much better quality than those taken on the coasts of Scotland, but that industrious nation far exceeds us in curing and saving the fish. On the commencement of the season vessels from England, Scotland, and many parts even of Ireland, attend in the different creeks and harbours of the bay, and purchase the fresh fish, which is immediately cured and prepared for exportation. It is much to be lamented that this practice does not awaken the attention of the merchants of the town, who might individually, or by forming themselves into companies, take advantage of those treasures which people of other countries annually carry away from their doors. The liberal encouragement, however, now held out by Government to the Irish fisheries may, perhaps, stimulate their industry. For this encouragement the country is not a little indebted to the late collector of Galway, whose exertions to promote this great source of national wealth are deserving of the highest praise.

4.—*Sunfish, Cod and Turbot Fishery.*

Next to the herring fishery, that of the sun-fish or basking-shark (with which the western coast of Ireland abounds), beginning in March and ending in June, is the most important, and, if cultivated with sufficient industry and skill, would prove highly valuable. This fish is of the cartilaginous class, and affords a considerable quantity of oil, which is much sought after and is little inferior in quality to that of the whale itself. The oil of a single fish may be worth from 20s. to 30s. sterling. But, notwithstanding almost every farmer in Conamara residing contiguous to the shore, annually employs one or two boats, yet for want of the true method of spearing or harpooning, etc., this fishery is not at all so productive as it would certainly be if properly prosecuted. The cod and turbot fishery also

arrayed in short white jackets, with silken sashes, their hats ornamented with ribbons and flowers, and upwards of sixty or seventy of the number bearing long poles and standards with suitable devices, which are in general emblematic of their profession. To heighten the merriment of this festive scene, two of the stoutest disguised in masks, and entirely covered with party-coloured rags, as "merry-men," with many anti tricks and gambols, make way for the remainder. In the course of their progress they stop with loud cheerings and salutations opposite the houses of the principal inhabitants, from whom they generally receive money on the occasion. Having at length regained their village, they assemble in groups, dancing round, and sometimes leaping and running through their bonfires, never forgetting to bring home part of the fire, which they consider sacred; and thus the night ends as the day began, in one continued scene of mirth and rejoicing. That the entire of this exhibition, though unknown to the actors, is a remnant of an ancient pagan

rite, is evident to anyone acquainted with the early history of this country.

Male and Female Dress.

Three flannel vests, under a fourth of white cotton or dimity, trimmed with tapo of the same colour, over these a fine blue rug jacket with a standing collar and horn buttons, a blue plush breeches never tied or buttoned at the knees, blue worsted stockings, a pair of new brogues, a broad trimmed hat neither cocked nor slouched, and a red silk handkerchief about his neck, completes the holiday dress of a Claddagh fisherman: at all other times they wear the common jacket and trowsers usual with persons of their occupation. The women still retain their ancient Irish habit, consisting of a blue mantle, a red body-gown, a petticoat of the same colour, and a blue or red cotton handkerchief bound round the head after the old fashion. On Sundays and festivals, however, they make a more modern appearance; a matron's dress being generally composed of a blue rug cloak

deserve particular notice: the former, it is said, extends from Claggan-bay quite across the Atlantic Ocean to Newfoundland. The valuable turbot-bank lately discovered has made this excellent fish generally very cheap and plenty in the town: it is brought in great quantities to several parts of the country, and frequently supplies the Dublin markets. Lobsters are also to be had in great abundance, generally from the county of Clare side of the bay; and the finest kind often sell, during the season, so low as from 4s. to 5s. a dozen. There are some extensive oyster-banks near the town, but they are now almost exhausted by continual drudging. One of these belongs to the corporation; and if it and the others were occasionally replenished with a few boat-loads of young oysters from the neighbouring coast, this favourite shell-fish would soon become large and plenty. There are, however, some fine banks on the shores of the county of Clare, the oysters of which, particularly those of Pouldudy, Burren and Kinvarra, are large and delicious. Very few places are better supplied with every species of fish than Galway, which, with other local advantages, render it one of the cheapest towns in the kingdom.

V.—PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

1.—*Bridges.*

Having before (p. 258) described our principal public building, the church, which until lately was the only passage to the peninsulated districts of

trimmed with fine ribbon, a rich calico or stuff gown, with the red flannel body-gown, however, occasionally worn over it, and a silk handkerchief on the head. The dress of the young women differs but little from that of their mothers, except with the addition of a fine muslin or cambric cap, trimmed with the richest lace. They have been seldom known to wear ribbons in their head-dress here, though esteemed such indispensable ornaments in other places. The cause of this omission is rather curious: In the west of Ireland it is a custom, rather general amongst the lower orders, that females who cannot speak English are not allowed to wear ribbons in their caps. Hence a stranger, on entering a fair or market town, may, in general, by this mark, distinguish those women who can speak English from those who cannot. Amongst the Claddagh community this distinction seems to have been scrupulously adhered to.

Religion.

They are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of one or two Protestant families who settled amongst them during the last century. St. Nicholas, their patron saint, they hold in the utmost veneration, as the protector of their profession, and celebrate his festival with the strictest observance. The contiguity of their village to the adjoining Dominican convent is one, and not the last, of the causes which attach them to their local situation. To

this foundation they have been from the earliest period very liberal benefactors.

Longevity, Interments, etc.

Many instances of extreme longevity occur, and the generality of the inhabitants live to an advanced age in the enjoyment of uninterrupted good health. Upon the interment of their dead, a custom rather of a singular nature prevails. The friends and relatives of the deceased adjourn, generally from the grave-yard, to some public-house in "honour," as they call it, of the memory of their departed friends. Here they continue carousing the remainder of that day and night, and the grief or friendship of each individual is generally estimated by the quantity of liquor which he consumes, or the money which he expends on the occasion. Had this custom been known to the late General Vallancey, it is probable it might have afforded him an opportunity of tracing some affinity between our Claddagh friends and the Arabs, who, it is said, also rejoice on the death of their friends and relatives. How far this incident would have supported a hypothesis for the learned antiquary this is not the place to conjecture; but it would be unjust to conclude this hasty sketch without testifying that, with all their faults, these individuals possess many good qualities, and that they are universally acknowledged to be useful and deserving members of society.

the west bridge, from its antiquity, now claims attention. This bridge, Iar-Connaught, was built in 1342, somewhat more than a century after Thomond-bridge at Limerick; and it has, like that venerable structure, withstood the current of an equally or perhaps more rapid river, for a period of nearly five hundred years. In 1558 a gate and tower were erected at the west end by Thomas Martin.—(*Vide p. 89*). A similar gate and tower were afterwards raised in the centre, which, with those that joined the town walls, may be seen in the engraving of the map of 1651, but these bulwarks have been all long since entirely demolished. About the beginning of the present century this bridge was thoroughly repaired on the north side, and, in the opinion of the architects, is now sufficiently strong to withstand for another long series of years the impetuous current which incessantly rushes through its arches.

On Monday, 29th June, 1818, the first stone of the new bridge leading from the county court-house to the gaol was laid by the Hon. William Le Poer Trench, and the building was entirely finished in October, 1819. It is a light and handsome structure, combining strength and beauty, and is no inconsiderable ornament to the town.

2.—*Barracks.*

The first regular troops were quartered in Galway in 1579, and a house was hired for their reception, the rent of which was paid by queen Elizabeth.—(*Vide p. 94*). In 1603 the mayor lodged the soldiers, sent by the governor of the fort, "in some of the strongest castles of the city." After this period the military were quartered in the upper and lower citadels, and in 1715 they occupied the convents after the dispersion of the nuns. The oppressive practice of billeting was severely felt for many years, particularly by the Catholic inhabitants. At length the castle, or upper citadel barrack, near William's gate, was built in 1734, for three companies on the old regulation. This is a neat and convenient building, and lies in a retired and healthy situation. The shamle barrack was erected in 1749, for ten companies, on the site of the lower citadel near the west bridge: it a handsome and regular structure, and is conveniently situated near the bridge and river. The Lombard-street barrack was also built in 1749, for five companies, on forfeited ground, in an open and airy situation. Besides these edifices, the old charter-school (now a convent) was converted into an artillery barrack in the year 1798, and several private houses throughout the town were occasionally, during the late war, occupied by troops. It may here be added that the town has been generally esteemed "good quarters" by the military, and that very few instances of disagreement have occurred between them and the inhabitants.

3.—*Exchange or Tholsel.*

This edifice stands at the extremity of Shop-street, near St. Nicholas' church. The foundation was laid and the building proceeded on during the civil wars of 1641 (*Vide p. 109, note*, where it is inadvertently stated to have been finished 1704), but was interrupted by the troubles, and may

be seen in an unfinished state on the old map, at the S.E. corner of the church. Thus it remained until the beginning of the reign of queen Anne, when it was rebuilt in its present form, and was at that time esteemed highly ornamental to the town.²³ It might even still be considered so, if placed in any other situation; but projecting as it does into a street already too narrow, which is thereby rendered more inconvenient, it would be a matter of public benefit if this building were entirely taken down; a handsome range of shops might be erected in its place, and another tholsel erected in a more suitable situation. However, as it stands, it is not undeserving of attention. It is a lofty edifice, of what may be called two stories in height, supported by eight extensive arches, six in front and one at each end, rising from lofty square pillars of hewn marble. The under compartment, which is upwards of ninety feet long, and twenty-eight broad, being covered over and flagged, and the inner wall lined with seats, is much frequented by the inhabitants as a place for walking and conversation. A large door in the centre leads by a flight of stairs to the upper compartment, which is exclusively appropriated to judicial purposes and public meetings. The town-hall is fitted up with a bench, jury-boxes, seats and accommodation for the gentlemen of the law, and a dock for prisoners, etc. Here the judges hold the assizes for the town, and the mayor and recorder transact their civil and criminal business. The town records are kept in a small room on the right of the passage ascending. The grand jury-room, which fronts the street, is spacious and convenient. On the right of the entrance to the hall a small flight of steps leads to the petty jury-room, and a gallery which commands a view of the bar and bench. Hence a narrow stairs led to a handsome and lofty dome or cupola, which formerly sprung from the centre of the roof, but doubts having arisen as to the safety of this dome, it was taken down since the commencement of the present century.²⁴ Similar apprehensions are now entertained for the flooring of the town-hall, and particularly when crowds assemble during the assizes meetings; the judges are sometimes obliged to prohibit the indiscriminate entrance of the populace. Although it has been pronounced sufficiently secure, yet doubts of this kind, when once excited, can seldom

²³ Before this period the merchants of the town were accustomed to assemble about their commercial concerns on the tessellated pavement, formerly called the exchange, which may be observed on the old map, near the shipping, at the quay.

The upper part of the present building was appropriated to meetings of a corporate and legal description, and the under part to those of a mercantile nature. During the rigor of the penal laws it is said that no Catholic durst enter here with his hat on, but should remain uncovered, as a mark of subjection to his Protestant townsmen, and there are old people still living who assert that a Catholic clergyman durst not at all enter the exchange. The times have, however, since changed; and the present members of the corpora-

tion are amongst the foremost in declaring for the general emancipation of their Catholic fellow-subjects.

²⁴ This dome or cupola, which was the principal ornament of the exchange, commanded a fine prospect of the town and bay. Its form was hexagonal, with a large window on each side; and these windows, when illuminated, as they frequently were on public occasions, had a beautiful effect. The interior was fitted up with seats, a dining-table and other conveniences, and was frequently the scene of many a festive meeting of the former members of the corporation. The whole was covered with an arched roof, whence arose a spire which appeared to much advantage in a distant view of the town.

be removed: this might therefore be an additional reason for erecting a new tholsel on a modern plan in some more convenient part of the town.

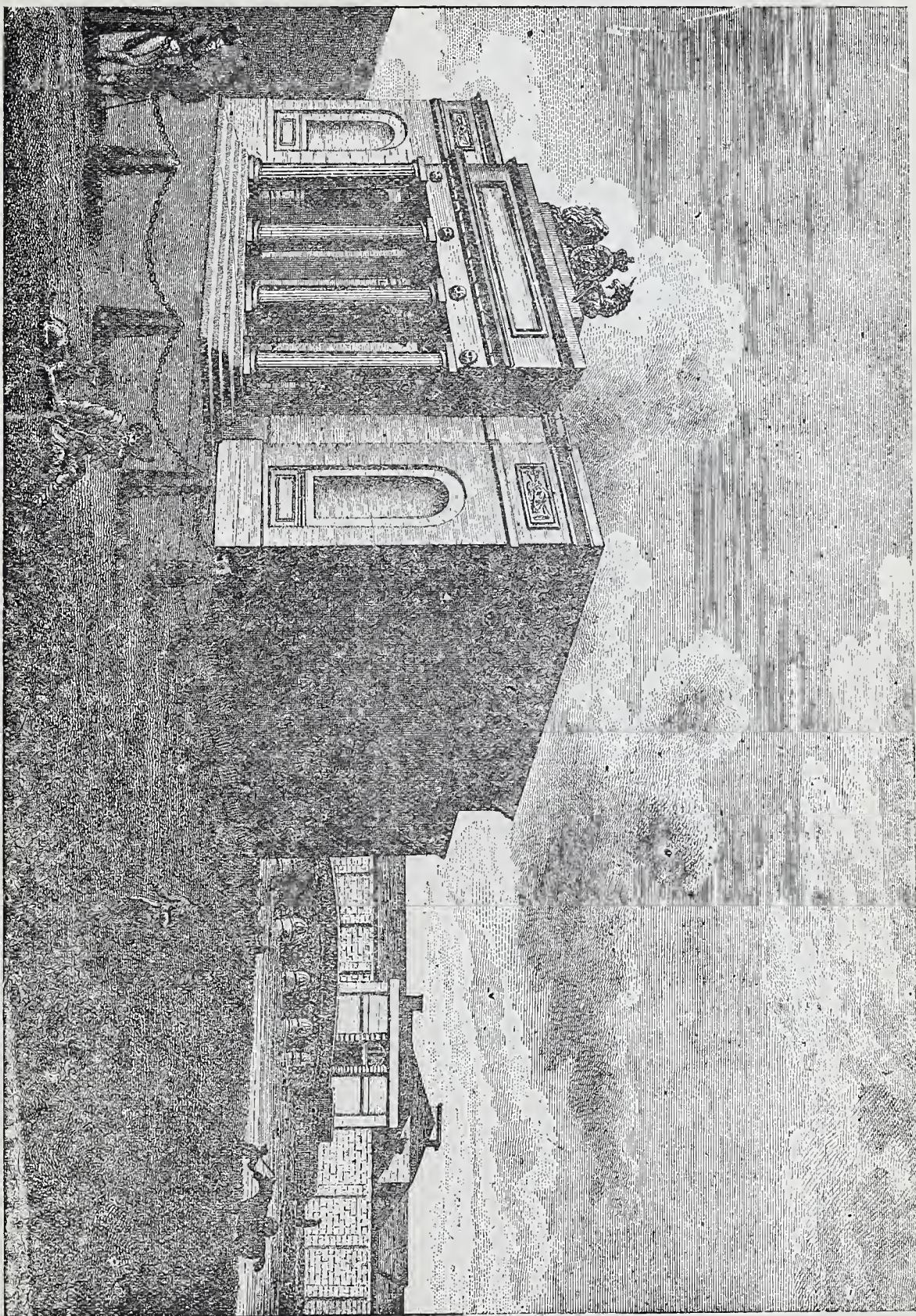
4.—County Court House.

This fine building, which is superior to most provincial seats of justice in Ireland, stands at Newtown-Smith, on the site of the ancient and venerable abbey of the Franciscans, which, by the charter of Charles II., “is to be and remain part of the county of Galway for ever.” It was commenced in 1812, and on 1st April, 1815, was opened for the reception of the then going judges of assize, justices Fletcher and Osborne, who pronounced a handsome and well-merited eulogium on the gentlemen of the county, for so unequivocal and splendid a testimonial of their high respect for the laws, and of their anxiety for the due and orderly administration of public justice. Besides two spacious and well-appointed courts for transacting the civil and criminal business, with grand and petty-jury rooms adjoining, there are several commodious offices and apartments for the high sheriff, treasurer, clerk of the peace, and other law officers. The splendid and accurate map and survey of the county, together with the several baronial maps made by order of the grand jury, are preserved here. The lofty portico, entrance, and extensive hall of this fine structure, will immediately attract attention. It is altogether an edifice highly creditable to the county, and considerably ornamental to the town.

5.—Town Gaol.

From a very early period the arm of justice was strengthened by the aid of a public prison in Galway. The charter of Elizabeth, in 1578, granted full power to the corporation to have for ever a gaol within the town, and a keeper of the same,²⁵ and to commit to and imprison therein prisoners for whatever cause or crime they should be taken, attached or arrested. The original prison was a small apartment under the tholsel; but vice keeping equal pace with the progress of population, a more spacious prison in process of time became necessary. Accordingly, a situation near the centre of the town, at a place afterwards called the main guard, was chosen for its site; and in its construction, like that of all other old prisons, more attention was paid to the security of the inmates than to their health or convenience. The celebrated philanthropist, Mr. Howard, visited this prison in April, 1788, and described it as follows:—“Galway city and county goal, in a close part of the city, has no court, no water. Gaoler’s salary, £20. Debtors 7. Felons, etc., 12.”—In this state it remained for many years after, until it became totally inadequate to answer the ends of public justice. In addition to its being ill-constructed, inconvenient, and the accommodations of the most wretched description, it

²⁵ By letters patent dated 16th March, 1603, Cormocke Mc Dermot and Henry his son were appointed keepers of the gaol of Galway during their lives, in reversion, after the death of John Wiliams, who then held same for the term of his life.—Rot. Pat. 2 Jac. 1.—This appointment appears somewhat inconsistent with the previous grant to the corporation, contained in the charter of queen Elizabeth.—Vide Appendix, Number III.



COUNTY COURT HOUSE, GALWAY, with a View of the Bridge and County Gaol.

nearly blocked up one of the principal openings of the town, which greatly inconvenienced the inhabitants. These circumstances having been represented to the corporation, it was ordered in council, on 21st June, 1802, "that for the purpose of widening the street, the present town gaol and the old guard-house be pulled down." Some matters, however, interfered, which delayed the immediate execution of this order.²⁶ The foundation of the new town gaol was at length laid in 1807, towards the south of the new county gaol erecting on the Nuns-island. The building was rapidly carried on; and on the 27th of December, 1810, the prisoners were removed into it from the old prison, which was soon after demolished.

This prison is situate in front of a branch of the river, in an open and healthy situation, and commands a spacious enlivening prospect of the surrounding suburbs.²⁷ It is three stories in height; which with the lofty gate and adjoining wings, give the entire an extensive appearance.²⁸ A few chambers of the basement story of the south wing are occupied by the keeper and his family. The debtors are lodged in a handsome suit of apartments, extending along the entire front of the building. In this division every possible indulgence, consistent with their personal security, is extended to the prisoners. Throughout the entire prison the same regulations and discipline are observed as in the county gaol; and every measure is adopted which judicious rules can provide, or the benevolence of a humane keeper extend, to render the tedious hours of confinement as light as possible to the unfortunate inmates.

26 On 2d April, 1807, it was stated to the commissioners appointed by act of parliament for building the gaol of the county of Galway, "that the public business of the county and county of the town of Galway would be materially inconvenienced and expedited by having the respective gaols and session-houses contiguous to each other; "and it appearing to the commissioners that a piece of ground lying outside the boundary wall of the new county gaol, and purchased by them under the provisions for the gaol act, would be sufficient for the purpose, (the said piece then remaining, over and above the ground necessary for the works erecting for the new gaol, and for all the purposes specified in the act,) it was resolved, "that the commissioners do consent and recommend that an act be applied for to amend the Galway gaol act, so as best to answer the purposes aforesaid, provided that the county of the town of Galway shall contribute one-sixth part of the expense of said amended act, and also defray one-sixth part of the expense of a bridge, which it appears will be requisite to build across the river, for the more convenient access to the town."—Orig. minutes.—This act was accordingly obtained, and the building proceeded with as above.

27 The new gaol commands a front view of the house and plantations of Rahoon, with other seats and villages, Shantallowe, the Presentation convent, the

Franciscan nunnery or lodge on the small island, together with a great part of the west suburbs; and from the rear the main branch of the river, the bridges, town, etc.

28 Although few will deny that a gaol always looks best on the outside, yet the interior of this prison is not at all unworthy of attention. Opposite the entrance, at the end of a spacious and lofty hall, after ascending a few steps, an iron door conducts to a double row of cells, with a yard at the end, for the use of the criminals. A flight of stone stairs, on the right, leads to the second story, which contains another row of arched cells corresponding with those underneath. A similar ascent leads to the third story which contains a third row of cells, but these, as the most remote, are generally appropriated to the solitary confinement of incorrigible felons. Additional apartments have recently been erected; and, from the daily increase of crime, it is much to be apprehended that more will soon become necessary.

The cells are built on an uniform plan, and are sufficiently roomy. Each is secured by a strong metal door, and receives light through a small window fastened with iron bars. The only furniture they contain are a metal bedstead, a stool and table. A few stoves throughout the prison, particularly during the winter months and a free ventilation would be desirable.

6.—County Gaol.

It appears by a record of the reign of Edward I. that in 1303, there was no public prison in Connaught; ²⁹ but this defect was soon after remedied. On the division of the province into counties in 1585, the gaol of the newly created county of Galway was established in the central town of Loughrea. Here it continued until 1674, when it was reported to be "so old and ruinous," that the judges of assize recommended the grand jury to build a new gaol in the town of Galway, and in the mean time directed that the prisoners should be taken care of. They were accordingly brought to Galway and lodged in the town gaol, which was made use of by the county sheriffs until 1686,³⁰ when a strong castle situate near the west bridge, and adjoining the town walls,³¹ was selected by the grand jury to serve as a gaol for the county.

In 1788 Mr. Howard visited this prison, of which he gave the following account:—"Galway county gaol is near the river; there is a new court, but no pump; the criminals are in two long rooms with dirt floors and no fire-place; the debtors have small rooms above stairs. Allowance to felons, a sixpenny loaf of household bread every other day, (weight three pound, twelve ounces,) which they often sell for four-pence halfpenny to buy potatoes. Gaoler's salary 20*l.* 1788, April 1. Debtors 4. Felons, etc., 14."

In 1791 and 1792, presentments passed for erecting a more spacious prison, and, after the necessary arrangements were made, an act of parliament was obtained in April, 1802, "for building a new gaol for the county of Galway, and for purchasing land sufficient for the same, and for other purposes relating thereto."³² The building was soon after commenced, and continued without intermission until the entire was completed, at an enormous expense. The prisoners were removed into it from the old

²⁹ Pat. Roll. 31st Edw. I, Birm. Tower. —This ancient document states, that the king, for that he had no prison in the county of Connaught, (see pa. 99.) empowered Richard de Bermengham, sheriff, that taking sufficient fines and security from prisoners, that they would appear before the king's justices, he might at his will and pleasure enlarge them on bail, with the assent and council, however, of Theobald de Burgo or Robert FitzDavid and so as that he should answer for those fines at the Exchequer.—From this record the precarious nature of the English power in Connaught, at this period, may be ascertained.

³⁰ In this year the town sheriffs complained, "that the common gaol was detained from them by the sheriff of the county, he having no manner of pretence to withhold the same"—upon which it was ordered in council, "that the sheriffs should cause a lock to be put on the lower gaol for the security of their prisoners, and their gaoler to keep the key until the matter should be decided."—Corp. book.

³¹ This castle, it is said, anciently belonged to the chief of the aboriginal sept of the O'Hallorans, and afterwards passed into the Anglo-Normal family of Blake. It was forfeited by them in 1641, and was granted to the family of Morgan of Monksfield, in whose possession it still continues.

³² The expence of this act amounted to 21*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* The commissioners first met on 3d May, 1802, and approved of "the southern part of Altenagh, in the Nuns-island, as a fit and convenient place to erect the new gaol." A plan designed (after the model of Gloucester gaol) by Mr. Hardwicke, of Upper Morton-street, Westminster, gaol architect, under the inspection of William Morton Pitt, esq. one of the knights of the shire of the county of Dorset, was approved of. The quantity of ground purchased was 3*a.* 1*r.* 11½*p.* the fee simple of which cost 664*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* subject to a right of free passage for cars and carriages. Captain Richard Morrison was appointed superintending architect.

county gaol, about the same time that those of the town were transferred, as mentioned in the last page.

This extensive prison is esteemed one of the most complete in this part of the united kingdom. It is surrounded by a strong boundary wall twenty feet in height, and is built with solid mason work capped with large hammered stone, and supported by buttresses placed at equal distances. There are also several arched sewers, secured by massive iron grates, which serve for cleansing the wards. The situation was most judiciously chosen; it combines in an eminent degree the principal means of preserving the health of the confined, viz. good air and excellent water, the want of which in the old building often proved fatal. The prison is two stories in height, it is entirely vaulted, and is built in form of a crescent at an equal distance from the boundary wall, inside which it is surrounded by a handsome gravel walk, a quarter of a mile in circumference. Here the debtors are occasionally permitted to walk and amuse themselves. No timber is used in the building, metal, iron, and stone having been in every instance substituted. The interior area is divided into eight wards, six for criminals, and two for debtors, one of which is used as an hospital. These different wards are capable of containing 180 prisoners, allowing two to each room. Twelve cells might be added to the wards, 4, 5, and 6. They are separated by walls, which form so many radii of a circle, and, terminating in the rear of the governor's house, bring the whole within the range of his windows, by which means he can at a single glance survey the entire. Out of this area the felons are not permitted to pass, and no intercourse whatever is allowed between the sexes, each being confined to separate wards. No prisoner is ever ironed, the strength and security of the place rendering that inhuman precaution unnecessary; but the greatest attention is paid to their individual cleanliness and comfort. Thus every measure is adopted which either humanity can suggest, or the merciful tendency of our laws allow, to alleviate the sorrows and lighten the burden of captivity.³³

The debtors apartments are also comfortable and convenient; they are entirely separate from those of the felons; and the reader may conclude, from the attention paid to the latter, that the accommodation of prisoners detained for debt has not been unattended to.³⁴

³³ On the committal of a culprit, he immediately undergoes a thorough washing and cleansing, and is attired in the prison dress, which consists of a frize jacket, trowsers and cap. All the wards have a constant supply of pure and wholesome water, and each is furnished with a water-closet and reservoir, which are washed every morning by means of a canal and conductors conveyed through the entire building. The beds, of which there are at present about seventy-five, are clean and comfortable, and are hung on swivels two feet from the ground. There is also a good supply of firing, and and particular care is taken as to the quality of the 2lbs. of bread, daily distributed to the prisoners.

The morals and religious instruction of

these unhappy people are also carefully attended to. In the centre of all the wards there is a handsome and spacious chapel, in which the protestant and Catholic chaplains of the prison alternately officiate, and frequently exhort their inconsiderate auditory to a sincere repentance for those crimes which exposed them to the vengeance of the offended laws of their country. These exhortations have been frequently known to produce the most salutary effects.

³⁴ The prison is regulated by the grand-jury of the county, and is at present under the government of a humane and upright individual well qualified for his arduous situation. His apartments are situate opposite the entrance, and, as above, command, from the rear, a view

VI.—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

1.—*County Infirmary.*

In the year 1638, the able but despotic lord deputy, Wentworth, directed by warrant under his hand that a public infirmary should be erected in and for the county of Galway. The troubles which soon after took place prevented the execution of this design, and more than fifty years were suffered to elapse before a small edifice at the Wood-quay, near Galway, was provided for the purpose. After some years this useful establishment was removed, for what was then termed "superior accommodation,"³⁵ to a house in Abbeygate-street, within the town, where it continued until the present infirmary was opened in the beginning of the present century.³⁶

This spacious and elegant building, which stands in a healthy and elevated situation, at a short distance from the high road or principal entrance to the town, commands from the front an extensive prospect of the bay, and from the rear a view of the lake and adjacent country for many miles round. It is three lofty stories in height, with a range of seven windows in each, front and rear. The architectural design of the exterior is plain, and suitable to the object of the institution, but the interior contains every convenience requisite for establishments of this nature. There are several wards well fitted up for the reception of the patients, of whom between 700 and 800 are admitted annually.³⁷ Numerous externs also daily receive relief and assistance.

of the entire prison. The turnkey's room, and a guard-house with suitable accommodation for the soldiery, lie inside the great gate, over which is placed the fatal drop for the execution of criminals.

³⁵ The following extract from the reports of the celebrated Howard, who visited this institution in the year 1788, will give the reader an idea of this "superior accommodaion":—"The county infirmary at Galway," says that indefatigable promoter of universal benevolence, "is an old house with two rooms on a floor. Those on the second floor are for patients, in one of which there were three men, and in the other nothing but old bedsteads, without bedding, all very dirty; allowance to each, three pints of new milk and two pennyworth of bread. A very large house, not finished, is said to be intended for an infirmary."

³⁶ The foundation of the present infirmary was laid many years before the building was thrown open for the use of the public. Pursuant to an act of parliament which passed in the year 1765, "for erecting and establishing public infirmaries and hospitals in this kingdom," a meeting of the corporation of Galway was convened on the 17th April, 1766, when it was ordered in council "that a committee consisting of the principal gentlemen of the town be, and are, accordingly appointed, to inquire and find out a proper place within the county of the town of Galway for erecting a public infirmary or

hospital for the reception of poor, sick and disabled persons," agreeably to the heads of the bill before alluded to. This committee having selected the site of the present edifice, the governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, Esq., granted two acres of ground gratis for ever, on which it was erected.

³⁷ All diseased persons are admitted, except those labouring under contagious fever. Entries are made of every patient's case from the time of admission until cured and discharged, in which the symptoms of their diseases, their general constitution, daily treatment, and the intentions in view by the medicines ordered, together with the results, are all particularly specified. The patients are dieted and clothed, the furniture and bedding supplied, and the repairs of the hospital, medicines, firing, soap and candles, officers' salaries and servants' wages, all provided for at the expense of the county of Galway. The inmates receive daily for breakfast one quart of fresh stirabout, composed of the best meal and pure water, with a pint of new, or a quart of sour milk; and for dinner twenty ounces of loaf bread, with a quart of new milk, four days a week; and for the other three days three-quarters of a pound of boiled beef each day, a quarter of a stone of potatoes, with as much broth and vegetables as they can use: for drink they get gruel and whey, and, according to the nature of each individual case, are supplied with wine and

2.—*Fever Hospital.*

The alarming typhus fever, which raged throughout Ireland in the year 1818, caused several individuals to enter into a subscription for the permanent establishment of a fever hospital in Galway, pursuant to the provisions of the act of parliament 54 Geo. III. A committee of gentlemen was accordingly elected, by whose unremitting exertions the progress of the then dreadful malady was impeded :³⁸ and measures were at the same time adopted which will, it is hoped, for the future prevent any serious effects from a similar visitation.

3.—*Charter School.*

On 24th October, 1747, an acre of ground at the east end of the green was granted by the corporation "to the Society for promoting English Protestant Schools in Ireland, for the purpose of erecting a charter school thereon, reserving the residue thereof for holding the fairs as usual;" and it was provided "that in case the Society should not build and endow the school within three years, the same should revert to the corporation." Some delay having taken place in erecting the school, it was ordered in council, on 28th December, 1749, that, in lieu of the ground, £5 a year should be given towards the support of the new-intended school. A handsome building was soon after erected in the west suburbs: but an institution of the kind was never destined to flourish in this part of the kingdom; it fulfilled none of the purposes for which it had been intended. On 1st April, 1788, Mr. Howard described the Galway charter-school as follows:—"Twenty-two boys, one an idiot: all had shoes and stockings; but in general they did not look healthy, which might be owing to their late recovery from the measles. Allowance for soap, candles and turf, only £14 a year. No

other restoratives. From this short outline of the economy of this excellent institution, it appears to be no way inferior to any other establishment of the kind in Ireland.

For the benefits resulting from this infirmary, society is much indebted to two individuals, Robert French, of Monivea castle, esq., the treasurer (in whose family virtue and public spirit seem hereditary) and James Veitch, esq., M.D., the superintending surgeon. The latter gentleman is a native of Scotland, and was the first Roman Catholic appointed to such a situation in Ireland.—The following extract from a public resolution of thanks, voted by the governors of the infirmary to doctor Veitch, is here inserted, as well to perpetuate the merits of that gentleman, as to serve for an example and stimulus to his successors:—"Resolved, that the thanks of the governors are due and are hereby given to James Veitch, esq., M.D., for his unwearied exertions, zeal, and attention to the sick under his care, and by whose medical and surgical abilities (which are so conspicuous) many thousands of our fellow-creatures have been restored from wretchedness to a state of health and com-

fort. That we view with great pleasure and satisfaction the scientific and successful mode of treatment adopted by him in the cases under his care, which have called forth the most grateful acknowledgments, public thanks, and approbation of the governors."—Public Papers. 1st July, 1816.

The establishment of a general infirmary for the town is now (1820) in contemplation.

³⁸ The gentlemen (particularly those of the medical department) who composed this committee are entitled to the lasting thanks of the community for their indefatigable exertions on this trying occasion. The author feels a lively pleasure in thus recording the names of these humane benefactors of the poor, viz.: the hon. William Le Poer Trench; James Daly, esq., M.P.; Valentine Blake, esq., M.P.; Parnel Gale, esq., mayor; Jas. O'Hara, esq., recorder; Mathew T. Smyth, esq., sheriff; Robert Martin, of Ross; Thomas Hynes, James Joyce, Manus Blake, Patrick Lynch, Walter Joyce and John Moore, esqrs.; colonels Ffrench and Blake; and doctors Whistler, Hardiman, Veitch, M'Hugh, Burko and Browne.

towels. The house in good repair, but wanted white-washing. This is a good situation for a bath."—From this period the establishment gradually declined, and it was finally closed in the year 1798. At that time the house was changed into an artillery barrack. It remained so occupied until 1814, soon after which it was converted into a convent for nuns of the presentation order: and thus, by a curious vicissitude, an edifice, erected a very short time before the commencement of the reign of Geo. III. for the purpose of promoting the Protestant religion in this country, became, before the close of the same reign, the residence of an order whose professed object is the very reverse, viz., that of extending and preserving the Catholic faith in Ireland.

4.—*Charity School.*

This excellent charity was founded about the year 1790 by the late venerable warden Kirwan for the education of indigent boys, who are carefully instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, and the principles of religion. It is chiefly supported by annual subscriptions and charity sermons; and the trustees have been latterly enabled to afford daily instruction to one hundred and fifty children, of whom one hundred are annually clothed, and twelve apprenticed to useful trades. The entire is conducted (under the patronage of the R.C. warden and vicars) by a president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, to whose benevolent superintendence the town is indebted for many industrious tradesmen, who have been educated and apprenticed by this institution.³⁹

5.—*Female Orphan Asylum.*

This charitable asylum was established a few years ago by subscription, chiefly through the humane exertions of Mrs. J. Joyce, but under the patronage of the late warden Bodkin. At present one hundred and sixty poor female children receive daily instruction, thirty of whom are dieted, lodged, clothed, and, when duly qualified, apprenticed to trades, or placed in other appropriate situations. This institution is highly deserving of public support, as it rescues many helpless individuals from ignorance, misery, and, probably, vice, and qualifies them to become, in their humble station, useful members of society.

6.—*Charitable Funds and Donations.*

William Hedges Eyre, Esq., by his last will, bequeathed £40 a year, to be paid out of the produce of the salmon fishery of Galway, towards the support of an alms-house for twelve poor men for ever; but it does not

³⁹ The original foundation rules of this school were: "That as many boys, from the age of eight to twelve years, as the funds will bear, be admitted, when previously recommended and approved of by the committee; that they are to be supported by their parents, and sent to the school at appointed hours, washed, cleansed and combed; that they are to be instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, and supplied with books, pens, ink and paper at the expense of the society: and, as emulation is the great spur to the infant mind, premiums shall be distributed

among the deserving; and such of them as shall pass three years at said school, without breach of moral duties, shall be apprenticed as soon as the funds shall admit; the incorrigible to be expelled."—M.S. Rules.

The school is under the care of Mr Ulick Burke, who is not only what the rules require the master to be, "a sober, moral man," but also a well-informed, religious individual, whose care of the education and manners of the children entrusted to his charge is entitled to the highest praise.

appear that the bequest has been ever fulfilled. Members of this respectable family have been frequently benefactors of the poor. In August, 1740, the widow, Jane Eyre, purchased from the corporation the sum of £12 annually for ever, "for the use of the Protestant poor of the parish of St. Nicholas;" and on the 3rd of July, 1754, the same benevolent lady made a similar purchase for the same laudable purpose.⁴⁰ In the year 1791, Mr. Kirwan, a London gentleman, descended from one of the Galway families, vested a considerable sum in trustees, and directed the interest to be divided on Christmas-eve annually for ever among distressed individuals of the Galway names, giving always the preference to his own poor relations. This donation has been judiciously applied to the purchase of an estate near the town, which will shortly produce about £100 a year, and the distribution of this sum will prove a considerable relief to many respectable, though reduced, families of the town.

7.—*Mendicants' Workhouse, or General Asylum.*

Independently of the native or resident beggars, with whom the town is always plentifully stocked, crowds of miserable medicans infest the streets at certain periods of the year, but particularly during the summer and bathing seasons. Entire families, driven from their houses by want or disease, pour in from all quarters of the country; and the extreme wretchedness which these poor creatures generally exhibit is truly afflicting. Several measures have been, from time to time, proposed to remedy this evil; and, amongst others, a workhouse or general asylum has been recommended. That an establishment of this kind would have the effect of clearing the streets for a time is very certain, but is not equally so that it would prevent a recurrence of the evil; for as long as the principal cause, viz., the poverty of the peasantry continues, so long numbers of mendicant poor many reasonably be expected.¹

VII.—PUBLIC MARKETS.

1.—*Corn Market.*

Two public markets are held here every week, viz., on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The latter is always the best supplied and attended.²

The corn market has been held since the 29th September, 1810, at the little green near Meyrick-square, to which place it was at that time removed from Market-street. The quantity and quality of the grain annually disposed of will be found in a preceding section (II. 2). A suitable market-

⁴⁰ For the punctual payment of these charities the corporation executed the usual deeds, binding themselves and their successors for ever.—Corp. Book H.

¹ On this point the following important truth is deserving of the most serious consideration:—"The Scotch government, at a time when vice, beggary and ignorance prevailed to an alarming degree, instead of attempting to palliate the evil by poor-rates and workhouses, made provision for a universal system of education, which,

having been strictly adhered to, has made them the most moral and intellectual nation in Europe."—Sir T. Bernard.

² Two fairs are annually held near the town, viz.: one at the green outside the east gate, on the 31st May, principally for the sale of black-cattle, and the other at Fairhill, about a mile westward of the town, on 4th September, chiefly for horses. For the dates of the patents, vide p. 230 (note).

house is much wanted, the old ruinous stable now used for the purpose being quite inadequate; and as this want is considered injurious to this important branch of business, it is hoped that so indispensable an accommodation may be speedily provided: indeed, it appears equally necessary as well for the credit as for the interest of the town.

2.—*Meat Market.*

In the year 1802 an extensive meat market was erected near William's-gate,³ partly on the site of the upper citadel, which was shortly before demolished. A spacious entrance leads from the public street to this market, which is conveniently fitted up with shedded stalls, benches, &c., where butcher's meat of every description is daily exposed for sale. The filthy practice of blowing the meat, when hot, inflating it with the tainted breath of the operator, is becoming less frequent. Beef, mutton, pork, bacon, &c., are plentifully supplied from the adjoining counties, and a peculiarly sweet-flavoured mutton, from the islands of Arran, is frequently to be had. This mutton is small, seldom weighing more than from 10 to 14 lbs. a quarter, but the meat is delicious, full of gravy, and is much sought after by epicures. Lamb, kid and veal of superior quality always appear in their proper seasons. The liberties of the town afford an abundant supply of live poultry of all kinds. There is also plenty of game and wild fowl in the season.

3.—*Fish Market.*

Previously to the year 1800 this market was held at the east end of the bridge, a circumstance which proved no inconsiderable annoyance to the public, the passage being frequently impeded, and the smell and filth often insupportable. At length General Meyrick, who then commanded this district, induced some of the principal inhabitants to enter into a subscription for the purpose of providing another fish market, and a convenient site on one of the quays, near the river, was chosen, where it was soon after erected.⁴ This market contains several sheds, a pump, porter's lodge, &c., and no similar mart in the kingdom is better supplied with fish of every description.—For an enumeration of the different kinds to be had here, the reader is referred to the account of the fishery of the bay already given, section IV., 2.

3 Before this year butchers' meat was exhibited for sale through the different streets of the town (but particularly about the lower citadel barrack, which, from that circumstance, got the name of the shamle barrack). Military force became necessary to compel the butchers to abandon the old system, and confine themselves to the new shamles.

4 Over the entrance to the fish market the following inscription appears:—"This fish market was built by subscription, under the patronage of general Meyrick, who, during his residence here, acquired

the praise of a grateful people, for his administration of justice and benevolence."

The old Poissardes loudly vociferated against this innovation, and refused to bring their fish to the new market until coercion was resorted to. Even still, as if determined to have their own way, they obstinately continue to expose their fish for sale in the street outside the market-gate, to the great annoyance of the passengers. This perverse practice ought to be prevented.

4.—*Butter Market.*

The small farmers in the vicinity of the town, but particularly those in the west liberties, and for some miles along the sea coast, principally supply the town with milk and butter. The latter is in general sweet and well-flavoured, but that produced on the estate of Barna is peculiarly so, and always commands a good sale in the market. The price averages from eight pence to sixteen pence per pound, which seldom contains less than twenty ounces: indeed, in almost every instance it is found to contain considerably more. There can be no doubt but that the butter trade, if properly encouraged, would flourish here. Some exertions are now making on the subject, which it is hoped may prove successful.⁵

5.—*Vegetable Market.*

The town is well supplied with vegetables from the surrounding suburbs. The green gardeners cultivate a considerable quantity of ground, and, by confining themselves exclusively to these pursuits, keep a constant supply of remarkably fine-flavoured fruit and vegetables. To this branch of industry the facility of obtaining seawreck (which forms a manure apparently well adapted for horticultural purposes) is of considerable advantage.

Potatoes, the most valuable of all the vegetable kingdom to the Irish poor, are always to be had in the market in large quantities. They are generally brought in on cars and in baskets, often from distant parts of the country, and are sold by weight, at an average price of from two pence to two pence halfpenny per stone of 16 lbs. A large supply also arrives yearly from the counties of Mayo and Clare, by the lake and the sea. A scarcity of this useful vegetable seldom occurs; but when it does happen, it is attended with the most distressing circumstances. The iniquitous practice of regrating or forestalling is not unknown; but during some dear seasons the unfeeling monopolizer has been disappointed, and the wants of the poor have been relieved by seasonable supplies of flour from America. The improvements, however, daily making in agriculture throughout this part of the country renders scarcities of the kind less likely to occur hereafter.

6.—*Fuel.*

Few towns in Ireland are better supplied with this necessary article than Galway. Boats laden with turf arrive daily at the Ship-quay from Connamara,⁶ and an immense quantity is annually brought down the lake to

5 Mr. Dodd, weigh-master and qualifier of butter in this port, has hitherto endeavoured, but without much success, to promote this trade. This gentleman mentions that the county of Clare produces abundance of excellent butter, which could be brought across the bay to Galway with more facility and less expense than to any other Irish market. He also states that the butter produced in the county of Galway, from the favorable nature of the soil, cannot be exceeded in flavour and quality; and that what was

shipped from the town last season equalled that of the county of Carlow, which always brings the highest price in the London and Spanish markets.

6 This turf is cut along the Connamara shore, and sold on the spot to boats from Arran and the county of Clare, at one shilling and one penny per ton of the boat: it is by them brought round to Galway, where it is generally worth about a guinea per four-ton boat-load.—Bog Reports.

the Wood-quay, above the town. Many cargoes of coal are also imported, in consequence of which firing is always tolerably reasonable. Frauds, however, are sometimes committed, by departing from the regular statute turf kish—a practice which cannot be too severely punished, as the poor are in general the sufferers, all who can afford it generally purchasing their turf by the boat-load, which precludes the possibility of their being defrauded. In 1762 the statute kish was sold for nine pence; at present it averages double that sum. There is another useful and pleasant species of fuel very plenty, called bog-deal, being decayed timber raised out of the bogs about the town.

VIII.—EDUCATION, LITERARY SOCIETIES, MANNERS, CUSTOMS, ETC.

The powerful influence of education over the human mind and character renders it necessary, before treating of the manners, customs and natural disposition of the inhabitants of Galway, to ascertain what advantages in that important respect they have hitherto possessed, or at present enjoy.—“Virtue,” says the philosophical historian of England, “never flourishes to any degree, nor is founded on steady principles of honor, except where a good education becomes general, and where men are taught the pernicious consequences of vice, treachery and immorality.”—The principal seminary for education established at Galway is,

1.—*Erasmus Smith’s Free School.*

This is one of the five original grammar schools founded by that adventurer in Ireland.⁷ By the charter of Charles II., 1666, it was declared to have been established “for so many, not exceeding twenty, poor children as should seem convenient, besides the children of his tenants (not limited to

⁷ The following abstract from the original deed, founding these schools, may not, it is hoped, be considered altogether irrelevant; it is dated 1st Dec., 1657; and, after reciting that “most of the sins which in former times have raignd in this nation have proceeded chiefly of lacke of the bringinge up of the youth of this realme either in publike or private schooles, whereby through good discipline they might be principled in literature and good manners, and soe learn to loath these haynouns and manifold offences which, when they did come to years, they did dayly perpetrate and committe;” Erasmus Smith, of London, esq., for the confidenco which he reposed in doctors Henry Jones, Samuel Winter, and several other trustees therein named, “and for the great and ardent desire which he hath that the poore children inhabiteing upon any parte of his lands in Ireland should be brought up in the feare of God and good literature, and to speak the English tongue,” assigned unto them “403a. 1r. profitable land near Athlone, 1467a. profitable land in the isles of Arran, 1011a. 1r. profitable land in or near the town of Galway, [except 5a. 1r. adjoining said town, marked (O), and 1a. 1r. marked (I) in the plot in the suveyor-general’s office], all in the possession of the said Erasmus, or his under-tenants, with the unprofitable lands thereunto allotted, cast in, and allowed, to hold as therein, in trust, that they should found five schoole-houses for teaching of grammar and the original tongues, and to write, reade, and cast accompts, to be built in the places following, viz., one in Sligo, one upon his lands about Galway, one upon his lands in the barony of Clanwilliam, county Tipperary, one upon his lands in the barony of Dunluce, county Antrim, and one where his lands that are deficient (which is £2700) shall be fixed; and to pay £40 yearly to a schoole-master in each of said schooles, for teacheing the poor inhabiteing on the premises to read, write, cast accompts, and grammar, as they shall be found capable; the children of the poore tenants, and of such as are

any number), who were to be instructed in writing and accounts, the Latin, Greek and Hebrew tongues, and to be fitted for the University if desired." Although the possessions of the governors of these schools are considerable in the town and liberties of Galway, and their tenants have been always numerous, yet the latter, being chiefly Roman Catholics, seldom sent their children to the school; in consequence of which the inhabitants of Galway cannot be said to have acquired those advantages from this seminary which might otherwise be expected. With very few exceptions, however, it has always been ably conducted.⁸ In 1813 a spacious and elegant school-house, with several apartments and offices, was erected, at an expense of between five and six thousand pounds. It stands on an elevated situation, towards the east of the town, and commands a fine prospect of the bay, the Clare mountains and the islands of Arran. It was opened on the 1st of August, 1815; and several of the most respectable youth of the town and province have since been educated here, under the care of the reverend Mr. Whitley, the present master, a gentleman who appears to have given general satisfaction.⁹

poore, or live by their labour, to be taught free, and without payinge for their teachinge; and that such of the tenants' children as should be made fitt for the Universitie, or Trinity Colledge, near Dublin, should have out of the remainder of the rents £10 a year for the first four yeares; that such person shalbe admitted to the said colledge of Dublin: but no poore scholler to receive more than £10 yearly, and not to continue longer than foure yeares after entrance into the Universitie. That when the annual value of the lands should exceed £300, the surplussage should be employed for the maintenance of five schooles, to be erected on any parte of said Erasmus Smith's lands in Ireland; and that no pension should be allowed to any student until these five schooles should be erected. Saving always to said Erasmus Smith and his heirs for ever, all cyries of hawkes in the isles of Arran, and libertie for digginge, cuttinge, polishinge, and carryinge away of stone out of the marble quarry in the isles of Arran."—Cromwell's Roll, No. 3, Rolls Off

The lands, etc., in the liberties of Galway were described as "One parcel called Barraghhallagh, with a mill; some houses; and old abbey, ruined, and several cabbins and gardens; a small parcel of land by Ballybridge; and the houses of Booremore and Boorebeg, with cabbins and gardens; the town and lands of Ballibane and Gleguale; a parcel of land called Milebush; a parcel of land called Ranmore; a parcel of land called Westmurragh; a parcel of land called Murragh, being one-quarter of Dohiesky; a parcel of land called Murraghbegg; a parcel of land called Ballybritt, and a parcel of the land

of Roscam, all situate in the liberties of Galway," with several other lands in the county at large.—Rolls Off.—These possessions, which contain several hundred acres, produce a large annual income. In 1808 the rise on the Galway estates alone amounted to £867 15s. per annum.

8 In 1788 the celebrated Howard visited this school, which was then kept in High-street and which he stated was well conducted and provided with an able master. "With this worthy master," says the philanthropist, "I had much conversation relative to a more general and liberal mode of education in that country. Mr. Campbell testified the readiness of many of the Catholics to send their children to Protestant schools; and he is of opinion that many would by these means be brought over, were the most promising of them enabled, by moderate aids, to pursue their further education in the University."—That such were the testimony and opinion of Mr. Campbell is very probable; but he did not produce a single instance to strengthen the one; and as to the other, it does not appear that they who ought to furnish these "moderate aids" have ever since thought such proslaves worth purchasing.

9 The course of education at present comprises the English, Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, composition in prose and verse, history, geography, the use of the globes, algebra, astronomy, and the more useful branches of the mathematics.—It is sincerely hoped that, as prejudice has on all sides rapidly declined, the benefits of this excellent course of education may become more general among the rising generation in this town.

2.—*Other Seminaries of Education.*

There are several other schools of different degrees of merit in the town for the instruction of youth, both male and female. Classical learning, it is to be regretted, is not so much attended to or so generally estimated as it ought. The principal part of the town's-people are fully content if their children receive a plain English education. There are, however, and always have been, many exceptions, and, among others, the classical academy kept by Mr. Kearns has produced some excellent scholars. Schools for instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic and mathematics (being the usual course of education among the middle orders) are more general. There are also several boarding schools for young ladies, and day schools for female children; and on the whole, though the town is not distinguished for a superior brilliancy of education, yet that blessing, in a moderate degree, is tolerably diffused among the inhabitants.

3.—*The Amicable Society.*

The great coalition of all that was wealthy and respectable, both Protestant and Catholic, during the memorable era of volunteering, gave a final blow to the expiring religious prejudices in this part of Ireland: from that period the gentlemen of the town and county forgot all party distinctions, and have ever since cordially united in promoting every measure connected with the public welfare. On the 16th of November, 1791, the Amicable Literary Society was formed in Galway by some of the most respectable individuals of both persuasions,¹⁰ for the purpose of acquiring and disseminating useful information on the important subjects of agriculture, commerce, science, &c. The members are numerous, and the mode of election renders them select and respectable. The funds are ample. The Society possesses a good library, and, with the English and Irish papers, receives several periodical publications. All religious and political disquisitions are rigidly prohibited; and if the Society has not entirely adhered to the objects of its original institution, yet it has not wholly departed from them. A noble superstructure might, however, be raised on this foundation.

4.—*The Mercantile Coffee Room*

Was opened about the year 1792, by subscription. The original list of members was chiefly composed of the gentry, merchants, and respectable

¹⁰ Walter Lambert, esq., of Cregaclare, one of the most respectable Protestant gentlemen of the county, was elected first president of the Amicable Society. The other original members were, Mark Lynch, esq., treasurer; John Lynch Alexander, esq., secretary; the reverend Messieurs Campbell and Young, both Protestant vicars; the reverend Mr. Kirwan (brother of the celebrated Dean Kirwan) Catholic vicar; the reverend Mr. Tierney, of the

order of St. Augustine; doctors Henry Blake, Oliver Martin and Patrick Cheevers; and Gregory Anthony French, Patrick A. Blake, and Walter Joyce, esqrs. Seven out of the thirteen are now (1820) dead! but—

Ampliat ætatis spatium sibi vir bonus
hoc est

Vivere bis; vitâ posse priore frui.

—Martial.

shopkeepers of the town. The establishment has recently branched out into two separate reading-rooms, which receive the principal London and Dublin papers, and also the *three* newspapers published in the town, viz. : the Connaught Journal, Galway Chronicle, and Weekly Advertiser.¹¹ These latter publications, though they cannot be adduced as a proof of increasing wealth or commerce, afford, however, unquestionable evidence of the anxiety of the town's people for information and improvement.

It has been observed that, ever since the mitigation of the penal laws, in 1778, the benefits of education have gradually extended over this part of Ireland. Many of the inhabitants of Galway and several gentlemen of the surrounding districts are distinguished for polite and elegant information. Book-shops and circulating libraries have increased, and a love for reading and literary taste is happily becoming more general. This is particularly observable amongst those in the middle walk of life, a numerous and respectable class, which includes a great part of the population of the town.¹²

5.—*Character, Manners, Customs, etc.*

Having thus far attempted a delineation of the principal features of Galway, its topography, constitution, commerce, public buildings, institutions, &c., the whole shall be concluded with a brief view of the inhabitants, their general character, manners, customs, &c. This is a subject which, for many reasons, the author would willingly decline; but as it is one deemed indispensable in works of this nature, he must, though concisely, and with diffidence, comply with the general custom. In the first place, it may be observed that, so long as truth shall be adhered to, the natives of Galway need be under no great apprehensions from the most minute investigation. The former inhabitants, it is true, have been charged with

11 The Connaught Journal was the first newspaper printed in the province of Connaught. The first number was published in Galway on Tuesday, the 8th October, 1754, by Thomas Hutchison, and it states that "this paper is the first attempt of the kind in this part of Ireland." It was published "every Tuesday and Friday; price to subscribers in the town, 8s. 8d. per annum, and if sent to the country, 11s. 4½d. Advertisements of all kinds, not exceeding ten lines, inserted for 2s. 8½d. per month." Previously to this period, a periodical work, entitled "The Galway Reviser," was conducted here by some literary gentlemen of the town; but it does not appear to have continued for any time.

In 1775, a newspaper entitled "The Galway Chronicle," was printed by a Mr. Connor; and, in 1791, the "Galway Evening Post" was published by Mr. B. Conway; but both were of very short duration. In 1809, another newspaper, the "Galway Chronicle," was established by Mr. Richard Busteed, a young gentleman of

considerable talent and acquirements. In the course of the last year, the "Galway Weekly Advertiser" was also commenced, and has ever since been ably conducted.

12 All ranks, from the highest to the lowest, with very few individual exceptions, speak their vernacular language, the Irish, fluently. The country people in the vicinity of the town almost exclusively use it: and such of them as understand English attempt it rather awkwardly, and with evident reluctance, in their intercourse with the town's people. The policy or laws which suffered these poor people to remain so long in a state of ignorance, by denying them the benefit of instruction in their native tongue, can only be classed amongst those great political errors of which history furnishes so many examples.—Thousands sterling are annually subscribed to instruct Indians in the most distant climes. but not a single effectual effort has yet been made to enlighten the minds or ameliorate the condition of our native poor!

“possessing an inordinate quantity of pride,” or, as described by lord Clancarde in 1641, they “were not without a large portion of pride, and particularly piqued themselves on entertaining high notions of honor.” This feeling, if not originally acquired, certainly suffered no diminution during their long continued intercourse with the Spanish nation:¹³ some will even assert that it has been communicated to their descendants, and that it may be very visibly perceived amongst many of them at the present day.¹⁴ From this source most probably sprung the practice of duelling,¹⁵ for which the inhabitants of the town and county of Galway have been heretofore so remarkable, and which, even still, is far from being eradicated. This custom is rather singular for being so general among a people well known to be religious by habit; but, like the celebrated chevalier Bayard, “the knight without fear or reproach,” it may be said of many an individual here “that he always heard mass before he fought a duel.” As civilization, however, advances, it is observable that this practice is gradually declining. Another propensity, which has been also pointed out as tolerably general in this part of Ireland, is an inclination for law, or, according to some, an immoderate love of litigation.¹⁶ This, however, admits of some qualification. It may, with as much propriety, be termed a desire to obtain strict and impartial justice; and we have the authority of Sir John Davis for asserting “that no nation under the sun did love equal and indifferent justice better than the Irish.” But it must still be conceded that the decline of both or either of these propensities, and the increase of industrious habits, would have the most salutary effects on the morals, happiness, and prosperity of the people.

A gentleman well acquainted with Galway and who had for many years resided in Spain, frequently mentioned to the author that he thought he perceived, in many instances, a striking coincidence between the manners of the people, particularly those of the middle rank, in both places. It is rather remarkable that somewhat a similar observation was made many years ago of the inhabitants of Limerick, to the author of the Philosophical Survey of the South of Ireland.—(*Vide p. 228*).—Among the lower orders

¹³ A Spaniard of ancient descent, and particularly a Castilian, thinks himself the most important being in nature; but, according to one of our popular writers, “ridiculous as this pride is, it is productive of the most exalted qualities: it inspires the nation with generous, humane and virtuous sentiments; it being seldom found that a Spanish nobleman, gentleman, or even trader, is guilty of a mean action.”

¹⁴ A late comic writer of some celebrity, describing the self-importance of one of his characters, tells us that he was as proud as a Galway merchant. This empty quality, however, is gradually disappearing: many of the present generation now smile at the follies of the past, and, with more liberal views, think no distinctions in society so laudable as those which are

founded in virtue and honor.

¹⁵ The county of Galway was formerly famous for such fighting gentlemen as Blue-Blaze-Devil-Bob, Nineteen-Duel-Dick, Hair-Trigger-Pat, and Feather-Spring-Ned; but these honorable agnomens would be no longer cited with triumph by ancient families; they are sinking fast into oblivion.—Edgeworth on Professional Education.

¹⁶ It has been observed that no city in Ireland, even of much greater extent, is better supplied with attorneys than Galway. Previously to 1790, there were scarcely six gentlemen of that profession here; but now there are upwards of thirty (amongst whom the author has the honor of being enrolled), a number deemed by some entirely disproportionate to the population of the town.

here, as in the last-mentioned city, many of what are termed the old Milesian habits are still prevalent. It must, however, be confessed that this class requires much improvement. Indolence is perhaps the cause of all their defects; but this arises not so much from inclination as necessity, there not being sufficient sources of profitable employment for the industrious poor. Small inns and tippling-houses are numerous, and even on the Sabbath are very indecorously kept open during the hours of divine worship.¹⁷ The evening also of this sacred day is not unfrequently profaned by drunkenness and riot. Several old and vulgar ceremonies, formerly in esteem, have long since disappeared. It is many years since the savage practice of bull-baiting has been laid aside: chanticler need no longer tremble at the approach of Shrovetide, and the public cockpit, formerly in such request, now lies deservedly neglected.—To conclude, the population of Galway, with many faults, will be also found to possess several excellent qualities, and, if adequately encouraged, would prove in no degree inferior to that of any other part of the British dominions.

6.—*Public Amusements, etc.*

The theatre is situate in Kirwan's-lane, which is one of the most confined and inconvenient parts of the town. The house is small, but the scenery is esteemed elegant; and, from the taste and attention of Mr. Macartney, the accommodations are as complete as the nature and size of the building will permit. The most celebrated performers, viz., Barry, Mossop, Kemble, Cooke, Siddons, Walstein and O'Neill, have occasionally visited these boards. The facetious Smithson had long been a favorite; and the exertions of Mr. Clarke to contribute to the rational entertainment of the public are deserving of every success. A new theatre, however, in an open and central situation, appears necessary. The assembly-room in Middle-street frequently displays an assemblage of native beauty, elegance and fashion, which would grace the drawing-rooms of a court.¹⁸ These, with occasional concerts and incidental public exhibitions, are the only

17 The author here begs leave most respectfully to point the attention of the heads of the corporation to this reprehensible practice, and to a few other matters, which, if heretofore attended to, might have been productive of much public advantage.—The first is the providing a fire-engine, the want of which, in this populous town, has been long and severely felt. It is a well-known melancholy fact that a conflagration here is seldom extinguished for want of proper assistance, until the ill-fated building which it seizes is completely reduced to a heap of ruins.—Another most desirable and necessary improvement would be the introduction of water-pipes through the principal streets, or the erection of three or four public fountains, which could be done at no very considerable expense.—The process of

flagging along the main streets, and a few lamps, would also be most important additions to the convenience of the inhabitants.—Another (though apparently trifling) improvement would be that of putting up the names of the streets: no small confusion has oftentimes arisen in describing the situation of property; and, from uncertainty in this respect, legal contentions and even non-suits have been frequently hazarded, which the adoption of this simple process would entirely prevent.—These observations it is hoped, may not be esteemed obtrusive, or beneath the attention of our worthy representative.

18 The following extract is taken from the observations of a lively French traveller, before alluded to:—"There are public assemblies daily, at a moderate price.

species of amusements which engage the attention of the inhabitants of Galway. If the green, or Meyrick-square (which has lately become a favorite promenade with the ladies) be excepted, there is no public walk worthy of the town; but there are some agreeable rides towards the west, whence the picturesque scenery of the bay and the county of Clare mountains appear to considerable advantage.

7.—Country Seats.

There are several fine seats in the vicinity of Galway. Of these the principal are:—Ardfry, the beautiful seat of the right honorable lord Wallscourt, situate near the new harbour, to which vessels resort from the road of Galway in tempestuous weather and ride in perfect safety; Tyrone House, the seat of Arthur French St. George, esq., which commands a charming prospect of the bay of Galway and the islands of Arran; Renvile, the seat of Philip Lynch Athy, esq.; Oranmore Castle, the residence of Walter Blake, esq.; Frenchfort, the seat of Michael Blake, esq.; Merlin Park, the fine seat of Charles Blake, esq., adjacent to the ruined castle of Doughisky; Well Park, the seat of Mr. Macnamara; Merview, the seat of Mr. Joyce; Menlo Castle, the ancient residence of the Blake family; Dangan, the former seat of the Martin family (this was universally acknowledged to be one of the most delightful residences in the kingdom, but it has of late years been suffered to go considerably to decay); Newcastle, the property of Robert Persse, esq., conveniently situated near the river, opposite the ruined castle of Terrilan, the once noble residence of the earls of Clanricarde; Ragoon, the seat of James Bodkin, esq.; West Lodge, the seat of our late venerable and respected recorder, James O'Hara, esq.; Barna, the highly improved and elegant seat of Marcus Blake Lynch, esq., which for situation and beauty of prospect stands unrivalled.

Galway gives the title of viscount to the noble family of Moncton.

Sometimes the ladies are dressed, sometimes half-dressed, and sometimes undressed; and, according to these different degrees, these meetings are called assembly, drum, or promenade. The price of entrance differs according to the name. The greatest gaiety and ease reign there: in fact, the belles of Galway are capable of instructing the French ladies in coquetry. In the morning, five or six young ladies, stowed in a car, with their legs hanging out, go two miles from the city to refresh their charms in the sea; and in the evening, if there be no assembly, they go from shop to shop, buying, laughing and chatting with their friends whom they meet on the way. There are in this good city some ladies who grow old without perceiving it, and who go about shopping, dancing and bathing, until they are upwards of fifty."—*Rambles through Ireland*.—Whatever truth might have been originally contained in some of these remarks, matters have since changed very materially. A period of twenty years makes great alterations in human affairs. Were this gentleman to visit Galway again, we venture to predict that his observations would be very different.



ADDENDA.

I.—MEN OF LEARNING AND GENIUS, NATIVES OF GALWAY AND ITS VICINITY.

The length to which this work has already extended precludes the possibility of more than briefly noticing a few eminent individuals. Of these the first, in order of time, is:

1. PATRICK DARCY.

This gentleman was born in Galway in 1598, and was the second son of James Riveagh Darcy, who was mayor in 1603. He was educated in the profession of the law, and became a leading member of the parliament assembled at Dublin in 1640, when the Catholics had a joint share with the Protestants in the legislation of the kingdom. On 9th June, 1641, he delivered (by order of the house of commons) his celebrated argument before a committee of the lords in the castle of Dublin, on questions touching the independence of Ireland, the illegality of appeals to England, the castle chamber proceedings, etc., propounded to the judges. Printed 1643, 4to. He afterwards became one of the supreme council of the confederate Catholics of Ireland, assembled at Kilkenny, in 1647; and, after sharing in all the political vicissitudes of those eventful times, he died in Dublin in 1668, and was interred at Kilconnel, in the county of Galway.—Vide Harris's Ware, et ante, p. 11.

The author of this work has in his possession, in manuscript, an able, but ineffectual, remonstrance, written by Mr. Darcy, against the partial proceedings towards the ancient inhabitants of the town and county of the town of Galway, after the Restoration.

2. JOHN LYNCH.

This virtuous and learned prelate was born in Galway early in the seventeenth century. He taught what was called a school of humanity in his native town. During the troubles of 1641 he dis-

approved of the violent measures of the warden, Walter Lynch; and, in 1647, opposed the nuncio, Rinuncini, who was then in Galway. He afterwards became archdeacon of Tuam, and, on the surrender of Galway to the parliament army in 1652, he went to France, where published under the name of "Eudoxius Alithinologus," "*Alithinologia, sive veredica responsio ad invectivam, mendaciis, fallaciis, calumniis et imposturis foetam, in plurimos antistites proceres, et omnis Ordinis Hibernos A.R.P.R.F.C. Congregationi de propaganda fide, A.D. 1659, exhibitam 1664, 4 to.—Supplementum alithinologiae, quod partes invectivae in Hibernos eusae in alithinologia non oppugnata evertit,*" 1667, 4to. But the work by which he principally acquired fame was published under the feigned name of Gratianus Lucius, and is entitled "*Cambrensis Eversus, seu potius Historica fides, in rebus Hibernicis, Giraldo, Cambrensi abrogata. In quo, plerasque justi historici dotes desiderari plerosque naevos inesse ostendit Gratianus Lucius Hibernus; qui etiam aliquot res memorabiles Hibernicas veteris et novae memoriae passim è re nata aut ceteri inseruit. Impress. An. 1672, folio.*"—In this work the errors and falsehoods of Gerald Barry, or Cambrensis, concerning Ireland, are detected and ably refuted. He wrote also "*Pii Antistitis Icon, sive de vita et morte rev. D. Francisci Kerovani, Alladensis Episcopi, Maclovii, 1669, 8vo,*" and became himself titular bishop of Killala before his death. A late biographer states he was traditionally informed that our author "was a man of the greatest benevolence, amiable manners, and virtuous dispositions, and that the whole course of his life was distinguished by a prominent and unaltered feature—the love of humanity and his country."

3. RODERICK O'FLAHERTY.

This learned Irish antiquary was born about the year 1630, at Park, near Galway, part of the ancient inheritance of

his family. He applied himself with astonishing perseverance to the study of the history and antiquities of his native country, and in 1684 published his great work, entitled "*Ogygia: seu Rerum Hibernicarum Chronologia; ex vetustis membranis fideliter inter se collatis eruta, atque è sacris et prophanis literis primarium orbis gentium tam genealogicis, sufflaminata præsidiiis.* Londini, 1685, 4to," which he dedicated to the Duke of York, afterwards James II. This learned and excellent writer, to whose laborious researches we are indebted for the most accurate chronology of this country that ever appeared, died on the 8th of April, 1718, aged 89 years. He lies buried in a field near the house in which he was born.

In the year 1775 Charles O'Connor, esq., published, with notes, "*Ogygia vindicated against the Objections of Sir George Mackenzie, a posthumous work, by Roderick O'Flaherty, etc.*"—This tract was published from the original, in the author's hand-writing. Several other manuscript remains of this excellent antiquary, particularly his "*Ogygia Christiana*," or "*Annals of the Christian Ages to the Dissolution of the Irish Monarchy*" are said to be still preserved by his descendants near Galway.

4. Sir GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, Bart.

This gentleman was born in Galway early in the last century. He studied medicine at Montpellier, and settled in London, where he translated several of the medical essays of Dr. Storck, of Vienna. About the year 1762 he went to Granada, where he acquired a considerable fortune, and having studied the law, became attorney-general of the island. He afterwards went to the East Indies as secretary to lord Macartney, in which capacity he displayed great abilities, particularly in the treaty with Tippoo Sultan, for which he received a pension from the India company, and was created a baronet. In 1792 he accompanied lord Macartney as secretary of legation on the famous embassy to China, of which he published a highly interesting account in two vols. 4to. Sir George died in London in 1801.

5. WALTER BLAKE KIRWAN.

This eloquent preacher was born in

Galway in 1754, and was educated in the Jesuits' College at St. Omer's. At the age of 17 he went to the island of St. Croix, in the West Indies, where he remained six years. On his return to Europe he was sent by his maternal uncle (doctor Anthony Blake, titular primate of Ireland) to the university of Lovain, where he received priest's orders, and was promoted to the chair of natural and moral philosophy. In 1778, he was appointed chaplain to the Neapolitan ambassador of the British court; and in the gay circles of London it is said that he first formed the idea of embracing the Protestant religion. After some years he returned to Ireland, and, in 1787, conformed to the established church. This event proved a source of unbounded regret to his numerous and respectable friends and relations. His brother, an exemplary Catholic clergyman in Galway, is said to have died of grief, originally occasioned by the circumstance; but his uncle the archbishop bore it more philosophically. When the latter was informed that his nephew had changed his religion, "Tut, man," replied the old prelate, "he had no religion to change;" but this may be reasonably attributed to resentment. It could not be denied, however, that the new convert brought a considerable accession of talent to the church which he had chosen. His fame soon blazed forth with a lustre unprecedented in the annals of pulpit eloquence, and his powerful talents were always made subservient to the sacred cause of charity. Though the powers of human persuasion were never more successfully employed, the worldly rewards of the preacher were comparatively mean and trifling. In 1798 he was appointed prebend of Howth and rector of the parish of St. Nicholas Without, in Dublin; and his highest ecclesiastical promotion was the moderate deanery of Killybeg, to which he was preferred in the year 1800. He died on 27th October, 1805, near Dublin, leaving a wife and four children very ill provided for, until his late majesty was pleased to grant his widow a pension of £300 a year. A volume of the dean's sermons, published in London in 1814, for the benefit of his family, does not appear to have added much to his fame.

The following beautiful eulogium on this highly-talented individual was pro-

nounced by the celebrated Henry Grattan in the Irish parliament on 19th June, 1792:—"What is the case of doctor Kirwan?—This man preferred our country and our religion, and brought to both genius superior to what he found in either. He called forth the latent virtues of the human heart, and taught men to discover in themselves a mine of charity of which the proprietors had been unconscious. In feeding the lamp of charity, he has almost exhausted the lamp of life. He came to interrupt the repose of the pulpit, and shakes one world with the thunder of the other. The preacher's desk became the throne of light. Round him, in a train, not such as crouch and swagger at the levee of princes, not such as attend the procession of the viceroy, horse, foot and dragons, but that where-with a great genius peoples his own state—charity in ecstasy, and vice in humiliation!—vanity, arrogance, and saucy, empty pride appalled by the rebuke of the preacher, and cheated for a moment of their native probity and insolence.—What reward?—St. Nicholas Within or St. Nicholas Without! The curse of Swift is upon him—to have been born an Irishman, and a man of genius, and to have used it for the good of his country!"

6. RICHARD KIRWAN, Esq.

This celebrated philosopher, whose talents and scientific discoveries have reflected so much honor on his native country, was born near Galway in the year 1734. He was descended from one of the most ancient and respectable families of the town, and, being a younger brother, was originally intended for a profession. He was accordingly sent to St. Omer's to receive a suitable education; but on the death of his elder brother he succeeded to the family estates; and having thenceforth abandoned all professional ideas, he indulged his propensity by applying to those philosophical pursuits for which he was so singularly gifted. He studied science, and traced nature in her inmost recesses, with that persevering industry in the investigation of truth which always marks the true genius. For many years he stood almost alone in his scientific researches; and if he did not bring the science of chemistry to perfection, he certainly led the way to many of its most important discoveries. It has been

pointedly observed, as a reflection on Ireland, that the abilities of Mr. Kirwan were more appreciated, and that his reputation was greater in every country in Europe than in his own. He published several learned works, viz.: *Elements of Mineralogy*, 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1784; *Geological Essays*, 8vo. London, 1799; *Essays on the Analysis of Mineral Waters*, 8vo. London, 1799; *Logic, or an Essay on the Elements, Principles and different modes of reasoning*, 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1807; *Metaphysical Essays, containing the Principles and fundamental Objects of that Science*. 8vo. London, 1809; *An Essay on Phlogiston and the Constitution of Acids*, 8vo; *An Essay on the Temperature of different Latitudes*, 8vo., besides numerous tracts in the transactions of the different societies of which he was a member.

Mr. Kirwan, for many years before his death, was president of the Royal Irish Academy, and also president of the Dublin Library Society; fellow of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh; member of the academies of Stockholm, Upsal, Berlin, Manchester, Philadelphia, of the Mineralogical Society at Jena, etc., doctor of laws, and inspector-general of his majesty's mines in Ireland. His manners were rather singular: he never eat in company, owing, as was supposed, to some disorder in his throat. He entertained many curious suppositions; amongst others, he conceived that mankind is indebted for a large portion of knowledge, particularly astronomy, to the antediluvians; and that Greek was the first language spoken by man. His religious opinions were unsettled to the last, although it has been asserted that he died "*Ferme Catholique*," notwithstanding his having lived "*Preux Chevalier*." This distinguished character departed this life in his house, Cavendish-row, Dublin, on 1st June, 1812, in the 78th year of his age.

Notices of several other natives of Galway, eminent for their learning and abilities, will be found interspersed throughout the notes contained in the ecclesiastical part of this work, to which, for the present, the author begs leave to refer the reader.

II.—A BRIEF HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE ISLANDS OF ARRAN.

The three islands of Arran, lying in the

western ocean, at the mouth of the bay of Galway, are stated by our annalists to be the remnants of a high barrier of land which the Atlantic burst over at an early period of the world.—Vide page 5, ante.—The late Mr. Kirwan, in his essay on the primitive state of the globe, says: “The bay of Galway appears to have been originally a granitic mountain, shattered and swallowed,” during a great convulsion, which he supposes to have taken place; and adds: “A vast mass of granite, called the Gregory, lately stood on one of the isles of Arran, 100 feet at least above the level of the sea. This was shattered by lightning in 1774.” That these islands were inhabited subsequently, to what in reference to them may be called the adjacent mainland, seems very probable. They were anciently overshadowed with wood, of which there are still very evident remains. This circumstance, combined with their retired situation and wild appearance, rendered them peculiarly well adapted for the celebration of the pagan rites of the early Irish. The immense cairns, stone monuments, or altars, circles, and other Druidic remains yet to be seen here, shew that these islands were formerly the resort of that famous order of Heathen priests.

On the invasion of Ireland by the Tutha de Danans, the Firbolgs, after the battle of Muireadh, fled to the isles of Arran and the other isles round the coast, where they remained until they were expelled by the Cruithnigh, or Picts, after the provincial division of the island.—Leabhar Gabhala.—A.D. 250, these islands were governed by the tribe of Eoghan More, king of North Munster, and afterwards became the residence of St. Iber, one of the four bishops who, in A.D. 412 (before the arrival of St. Patrick), were sent to preach the Christian faith in Ireland. In the same century Ængus, king of Cashel, granted the great island of Arran to St. Endeus, who built ten monasteries and thirteen churches on it, the principal of which was afterwards, from him, called Kill-Enda. The island itself was soon after distinguished by the name of Ara na Naomh, or Ara of the Saints; and so great was the number of holy men and hermits here interred, that the writer of the Life of St. Kieran declares they were known only to the Almighty God alone.—In qua in-

sula multitudo virorum sanctorum manet, et innumerabiles sancti, omnibus incogniti nisi solo Deo omnipotenti, ibi jacent.—In 546 it was agreed between the kings of Munster and Connaught that the islands of Arran were to acknowledge no superior, or pay chief rent to any but their native princes, in whose possession they remained for many ages afterwards. By the annals of Innisfallen it appears that the great island was destroyed in 1031, by the Danes.—Arainn na Naomh do losgadh le Lochlannaibh.—Cambrensis, who wrote in the century after this period, gravely informs us that “Here human bodies are neither buried, nor do they putrefy, but, lying on the surface and exposed to the open air, they remain uncorrupted; and men may thus behold and recognise their grandfathers and great-grandfathers. Another thing remarkable is that, though all Ireland abounds with rats, this island is free from any, for should that reptile be brought thither, it either leapeth into the sea, or, being prevented, instantly dies!”—This, however, is but one of the numerous fables and falsehoods with which that vain topographer amused his Oxford auditory respecting Ireland.

By the ancient records of Galway it appears that from a remote period the sept of Mac Tieghe O'Brien, lords of these islands, were on terms of alliance and friendship with the inhabitants of the town.—Vide ante, pp. 52, 207.—This, however, did not save them from being plundered and burned by Sir John D'Arcy, lord justice, who sailed round the western coast of Ireland in the year 1334 with a fleet of fifty-six sail.—Clynne's Annals.—In 1485 a monastery for Franciscans was built in the great island; in which there was also founded a famous abbey of regular canons. In the sixteenth century the O'Briens were expelled from these islands by the O'Flaherties of Iar-Connaught; information of which outrage having been sent to queen Elizabeth, a commission issued, under which it was found that they belonged to her majesty in right of her crown. She, accordingly, by letters patent dated 13th January, 1587 (instead of restoring them to the and his heirs, on condition that he should retain constantly on the islands twenty foot-soldiers of the English nation.—Rot. Pat. 31 Eliz.—On this occasion the cor-

poration of Galway addressed the queen on behalf of the O'Briens; but their appeal proved ineffectual. After this period the property and inheritance of Arran became vested in Sir Robuck Lynch, of Galway: but the Clan 'Leeges still claimed them as their ancient patrimony; and, taking advantage of the troubles in 1641, with the assistance of Boetius Clanchy, the younger (a gentleman of considerable property and influence in the county of Clare), prepared to invade the islands; but their design was prevented by the timely interference of the marquis of Clanricarde, assisted by the earl of Thomond.—Clon. Mem. 71.

On the decline of the royal authority in Ireland in 1651, the marquis of Clanricarde resolved to fortify these islands as places of refuge in cases of extremity. Accordingly, two hundred musketeers, with officers and a gunner, under the command of Sir Robert Lynch, were sent thither.—Vide ante, pa. 127, note.—The fort of Ard kyn, in the great island, was soon after repaired and furnished with cannon which enabled it to hold out against the parliamentary forces near a year after the surrender of Galway. In the beginning of December, 1650, the Irish, routed in every other quarter, landed seven hundred men here, by the help of boats, from Iar-Connaught and Innis-Bophin; but on the 9th of January following, 1300 foot, with a battering piece, were shipped in the bay of Galway to attack them, and, at the same time, 600 foot more marched from the town to Iar-Connaught, to be thence conveyed to their assistance if necessary. On the 15th the islands surrendered on the following "Articles concluded between major James Harrison and captain William Draper, on behalf of commissary-general Reynolds, commander in chief of the parliamentary forces in the isles of Arran, and captain John Blackwall and captain Brien Kelly, commissioners, appointed by colonel Oliver Synnot, commander of the fort of Ard kyn, for the surrender of the said fort.—1. It is concluded and agreed, that all the officers and soldiers, both belonging to sea and land, shall have quarters, as also all others, the clergymen, and all other persons within the fort.—2. That they shall have six weeks for their transportation into Spain, or any other place in amity with the state of England; and

that hostages be given by colonel Synnot for the punctual performance of these articles.—3. That colonel Synnot shall deliver up the fort, with all necessaries of war, by three o'clock this instant, 15th January, 1652, before which time all officers and soldiers belonging to the said fort shall march, with drums beating, to the church near Ard kyn, and there lay down their arms.—4. That colonel Synnot and the captains, eight in number, shall have liberty to carry their swords; the other officers and soldiers to lay down their arms; that commissary Reynolds shall nominate four officers of the fort hostages.—5. That colonel Synnot, with the rest of the officers and soldiers, and all other persons in the fort, shall, upon delivering their arms and delivering their hostages, be protected from the violence of the soldiers, and with the first convenience be sent to the county of Galway; there to remain in quarters for six weeks, in which time they are to be transported, as aforesaid: provided that no person whatsoever, belonging to the fort of Ard kyn, and found guilty of murder, be included or comprised in these articles, or have any benefit thereby."—Orig. MS.

The parliamentary forces, on taking possession of the fortifications, found seven large pieces of cannon, a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition; they also seized a French shallop of twenty eight oars, and several large boats. The fort was soon after newly repaired, and a strong garrison stationed in it. In the mean time, Sir Robert Lynch, the former proprietor of the islands, was declared a forfeiting traitor. His right was assigned to Erasmus Smith, esq., one of the most considerable of the London adventurers in Ireland; and the interest of this gentleman having been purchased by Richard, earl of Arran, his title was afterwards confirmed by the act of settlement. On the surrender of Galway to king William's forces, in 1691, a garrison was sent to Arran, and a barrack was built, in which soldiers were stationed for many years. After several revolutions, the inheritance of the islands became vested in the Digby family, in whose possession they now remain.

The author regrets that he cannot here introduce a description of the natural productions and stupendous scenery of these interesting islands, the singular cus-

toms and simple manners of the natives, and an account of the ancient churches, stone crosses, rude monuments, and other remains of antiquity to be met with here by the curious. He must, therefore, for the present, be content with laying before the reader the following return concerning these islands, made under the Census Act of 1812, which is supposed to be generally correct:—

NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF PARISHES, Etc.

The three Islands of Arran, Half Barony and Parish of Arran, viz.

Island of Eniseer: Inhabited Houses, 47; By how many Families occupied, 47; Houses now building, 4; Families chiefly employed in Agriculture, 46; Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures and Handc., —; All other Families not comprised in the two preceding classes, 1; Males, 141; Females, 154.

Island of Enismane: 51; 55; 3; 51; 4; —; 164; 156.

Killeany Village, in Great Island: 78; 82; 2; 78; 4; —; 249; 211.

Kilronan, ditto: 52; 52; 2; 48; 4; —; 191; 169.

Manister, ditto: 9; 9; 1; 9; —; —; 26; 25.

Oghill, ditto: 24; 24; —; 20; 3; 1; 64; 54.

Ballinacreggy, ditto: 22; 22; 2; 19; 3; —; 67; 63.

Oat-quarter, ditto: 19; 19; —; 17; 2; —; 60; 45.

Gorthnagapple, ditto: 18; 18; 1; 18; —; —; 49; 53.

Kilmurry, ditto: 15; 15; —; 15; —; —; 43; 50.

Corrig, ditto: 10; 10; —; 10; —; —; 28; 38.

Onaught, ditto: 19; 19; 1; 19; —; —; 59; 51.

Cregahcrean, ditto: 20; 20; —; 20; —; —; 64; 63.

Bungowley, ditto: 11; 11; —; 11; —; —; 39; 24.

Total: 395; 400; 17; 381; 20; 2; 1,244; 1,156.

Attested by Digby Devenish, the person appointed by the grand-jury to take an account of the population of the three islands of Arran (the same amounting to 2400 souls), this 12th day of August, 1813, before us,

W. Le Poer Trench.
John Blake.

On the evening of the 1st May, 1818, a bright revolving light was exhibited from the new light-house, then lately built on the island of Arran. This island bears by compass, from Hog's-head, N. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 16 miles; from Guilin-head, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. about 8 miles; from Blackhead, within the bay of Galway, W. by N. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. 18 miles; and from Mutton-island, near the town, W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. distance 29 miles.

APPENDIX

TO THE

HISTORY OF GALWAY

Bull or Diploma of Pope Innocent VIII Establishing the Wardenship of Galway, 1484.

(Translated from the Latin.)

Innocent, bishop, servant of the servants of God, etc. We, exercising the office of a watchful sentinel, as it is granted to us from above, over the Lord's flock, committed by the divine power to our vigilance, do willingly mind those things by which divine worship is augmented, and the salvation of souls is hoped to proceed from; and we cheerfully add the strength of our power to such measures as we have found out these providentially to have sprung from; to the end that they may last the firmer uncorrupted, by being the more strengthened: and for as much as a petition hath been lately preferred unto us, on behalf of our beloved children, all the parishioners of the parish church of Saint Nicholas of the town of Galway, in the diocese of Annaghdown, setting forth that our venerable brother, Donatus, archbishop of Tuam, who is known to be prelate of the see of Annaghdown, perpetually united to the see of Tuam, had some time ago seriously considered that the parishioners of the said church of Saint Nicholas were modest and civil people, and that they lived in the said town, surrounded with walls, not following the customs of the mountainous and wild people of those parts, and that by reason of the impetrations or provisions of the aforesaid mountainous and wild people, to the vicarage of the said church of St. Nicholas, before commonly governed by vicars, they were so much disturbed that they could not assist at divine service, nor receive the holy sacraments according to the English decency, rite and custom, which the aforesaid inhabitants

and their ancestors always used; they being much disquieted therein, and sometimes robbed of their goods, and killed by those unlearned men, and also that they were obliged to sustain many other damages and inconveniences, both in person and substance, from them, and feared to suffer more for the future, if not speedily succoured. This matter being providently considered, the said Donatus, at the humble request of the said parishioners, has constituted and erected, by his proper authority, the aforesaid church of Saint Nicholas into a collegiate, and therein a college of one warden and eight priests, and for their support he hath applied the fruits, rents and incomes of the said vicarage, and the half quarter which the incumbents of the said church of Saint Nicholas had been, for a long time, accustomed to have from our beloved children, the abbot and convent of the monastery of Knockmoy, of the Cistercian order, and diocese of Tuam; he has also appropriated to the capitular table of the said church of Saint Nicholas, other goods, rents, lands, tythes, rights and services then expressed by him the said archbishop, and by some of said parishioners bestowed, providentially considering that the said premises were scarcely sufficient to support, decently, four of the said priests.—It was his will, that whatever any of the said parishioners might chance to bestow for the future, should belong in full right to the said church of Saint Nicholas; and he has likewise so united, annexed and incorporated for ever to the said church of Saint Nicholas, the vicarage of the parish church of Saint James of Balen-clear (Clare-Galway), of the said diocese of Annaghdown, by consent of the vicar thereof, for the sustenance of the warden and eight priests aforesaid, in the said church of Saint Nicholas; and by the same

proper authority the archbishop (as it is said to be more amply contained in certain authentic letters under his own seal), has ordained that the said church of Saint Nicholas, erected into a collegiate as aforesaid, should be governed and ruled for the future not by one vicar, but by the said eight priests or vicars, who were to be virtuous,, learned and well-bred men, and by one warden or custos, who all should rightly observe the English rite and custom in divine service; and he has likewise ordered that the said priests should be presented by the sovereign, provost or mayor, and bailiffs and equals of the town aforesaid, to the aforesaid warden or custos of the said college, and should be confirmed by the said warden or custos as vicars having the care of souls; and that the said warden or custos, who is removable every year, at the presentation of the aforesaid sovereign or mayor and equals, should be instituted by the said vicars; and that the said warden, being thus instituted, should have power over all the said vicars and parishioners, and exercise the care of souls.—Wherefore there has been an humble address made unto us, on behalf of the aforesaid parishioners, that we might be pleased, by our apostolical favour, to add the authority of our confirmation, will and ordination to the aforesaid erection, donation, application, appropriation, union, annexation and incorporation, to the end that they may subsist more firmly, and that we might be further pleased to provide what may seem fit in relation to the premises.—We, therefore, who love the advancement of divine worship, and have been always willing that whoever would have ecclesiastical benefices united to others, should, among other things, be bound to express the true yearly value of the fruits, rents and incomes of the benefices for which the union should be desired, otherwise that the union should be of no force, and that always, in case of unions, matters should be made known to the parties concerned, as is observed in the confirmation of unions already made: we having thus an account of the true yearly value of the fruits, rents and incomes of the said vicarage of the said church of Saint Nicholas and the college thereof, and of the other donations and oblations, and of the manner of the last vacation of the said vicarages of the churches of Saint Nicholas and Saint

James, and having expressly before us the tenor of the letters of the aforesaid erection, donation, application, appropriation, union, annexation and incorporation, ordination and will, and in regard of the aforesaid petition: we, by our apostolical authority, in virtue of these presents, do confirm and approve, and by force of this writing do strengthen the aforesaid erection, donation, application, appropriation, union, annexation, incorporation, will and ordination, and all and every matter contained in said letters, and all things which followed the same; and we do supply all and every defect, as well of law as of fact, and of any other solemnity omitted, if any has happened therein; and, for the further security of the premises, we, by the aforesaid apostolical authority, and without prejudice to any other, do erect the said church of Saint Nicholas into a collegiate, and therein do appoint one wardenship for one warden or custos, and eight perpetual vicarages for so many priests, who, as head and members of the said collegiate, shall constitute a chapter having privilege of a common seal, a chest or burse, a table and other collegiate ornaments. We do also, by the said apostolical authority, for ever unite, annex and incorporate anew the aforesaid vicarage of Saint James, with all its rights and appurtenances, and with all other fruits, rents and incomes thereof (not exceeding the annual value of six marks sterling according to the common estimation, as the aforesaid parishioners alledge), to the said church of Saint Nicholas, to whom the care of souls appertains, and though the vicarage of Saint James should be vacant for so long a time as that the collation thereof should lawfully devolve to the apostolical see, according to the statutes of the Lateran council, and though it be specially reserved to the disposal of the see aforesaid. And by the same authority we appoint and order, that the aforesaid church of Saint Nicholas, so erected into a collegiate, according to the aforesaid ordination of the said archbishop, be, for the time to come, perpetually ruled and governed by eight priests, who must be learned virtuous, and well-bred men, and accustomed to observe the English rite and manner of divine service; and that the aforesaid priests be presented by the chief magistrate or mayor, and bailiffs and

equals of the said town, to the aforesaid warden or custos for the time being; and that, on the same presentation, they be instituted, by the said warden, perpetual priests or vicars in the said college; but the aforesaid warden or custos, who is every year removable, to be presented to the aforesaid priests or vicars by the said sovereign, provost, mayor and equals, and at the said presentation to be by the said priests or vicars deputed and instituted warden for that year in the said college; and that the said warden or custos, after having obtained his institution, should have, during the year for which he is elected or instituted, power over all the said priests or vicars of the said church of Saint Nicholas, and over the parishioners of the same, and exercise the care of souls of both the said priests and parishioners, without prejudice to the right of any other parish churches, or of any other whomsoever. We, by the authority aforesaid, do grant for ever to the aforesaid sovereign, provost or mayor, bailiffs and equals of the said town a right of patronage, and of presenting the aforesaid priests to the warden, to be instituted vicars by him, and of presenting the warden to the said priests or vicars, to be instituted by them. And if any attempt, contrary to these, shall happen to be made, knowingly or ignorantly, by any person or by any authority whatsoever, we, from this time forth, decree the same to be void and of no force, notwithstanding any other former will, or any other apostolical constitutions or ordinations to the contrary. And if any person, that was to be provided for, has obtained any special or general letters of the said see or its legates, for this or any other ecclesiastical benefices in these parts, though, by the said letters, they might have proceeded to an inhibition, reservation and decree, or otherwise, howsoever the process might be; it is our will that the said letters, and the process had under the same, and whatever may thence follow, be not henceforth extended to the aforesaid united vicarage. But by this we would have no prejudice done to them, as to their obtaining other benefices, privileges, indulgences, or any other apostolical letters, special or general, of whatsoever tenor they be, nor that their effect may be any way hindered or deferred in relation to any other matter but what is expressed or totally inserted in those pre-

sents, of which and their tenor a special recital may be found in our letters, provided that by this union the church of Saint James be not deprived of due service, and that the care of souls be by no means neglected therein, but the accustomed duties thereof be properly supported. Let it not be lawful for any person to break, or, by a rash boldness, oppose these our letters of confirmation, approbation, conjunction, application, union and annexation, incorporation, constitution, ordination, concession, decree and will; and if any one shall presume to attempt it, let him know that he incurs the indignation of Almighty God, and of his blessed apostles, Peter and Paul.

Dated at Rome, at St. Peter's, in the year of our Lord's incarnation 1484, the 6th of the ides of February, and the first year of our popedom.

L. GRIFUS.

Charter of Q. Elizabeth to the Town of Galway.

Elizabeth, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, Queen, defender of the faith, etc.: To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected letters patent of our most dear brother, our Lord Edward the Sixth, late king of England, to the mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway, in our kingdom of Ireland, the tenor whereof follows in these words:—

Edward the Sixth, by the Grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, and of the church of England and Ireland, on earth supreme head: To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. We have inspected patents of our Lord, Henry the Eighth, late king of England, our most dear father, made in these words.

Henry, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, and of the church of England and Ireland, on earth supreme head: To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting.

Know ye that whereas, Lord Richard, late king of England, the second after the conquest, having taken into consideration that the town of Galway, in Connaught, which is the key of those parts of his land of Ireland (in which town all his faithful and liege people, as well strangers as others, resorting to the parts aforesaid,

were received, saved, comforted and relieved), lay exposed on all sides as well to Irish enemies as English rebels, so that the burgesses of the said town and others dwelling therein, and coming thereunto, dare not, without great conduct, come to the said town either by land or by water, or go out of the same to traffic and transact other necessary business, and that the said burgesses, for the safe custody of the said town against the malice of the said enemies and rebels, had continually, day and night, maintained and supported in the said town, divers men for defence, at their own proper charges, to the manifest impoverishment of their estate, in aid of the relief and encouragement of the town aforesaid, and in order that merchants and others might be the more induced and encouraged to dwell and inhabit in the said town, for the better resistance of the malice of the said enemies and rebels; by his letters patent, dated at Dublin, the twenty-sixth day of January, in the nineteenth year of his reign, of his special grace, granted and gave licence, for himself and his heirs, as much as in him lay, to the provost and co-burgesses of the said town of Galway, that they and their heirs and successors, co-burgesses therein, might thenceforth, annually, for ever, from year to year, of their common assent, elect among themselves one sovereign of the said town, and that the said sovereign, when he should be by them so elected, that is to say, after the first election of such sovereign, before the said provost of the said town, and every year afterwards before the sovereign of the said town, in the year last preceding, should take a corporal oath, well and faithfully to rule and govern the town aforesaid, and to maintain the laws of the said late king, and the good customs of the said town, used and approved of, and all other things whatsoever concerning the office of such sovereign, in any such borough, rightly for the good government and benefit of the said town, to do and execute: and moreover, he granted, for himself and his heirs, to the said co-burgesses and their heirs and successors, burgesses there, that no merchant or other person whatsoever, whether foreign or native, of what state or condition soever he should be, who should not be continually resident in the said town, and sworn as a co-burgess of the same, to support and sustain, from time to time, all burthens in the

said town as the burgesses themselves do, should thenceforth, within the liberty of the said town, by land or by water, buy or sell any merchandizes or victuals by retail, in any manner whatsoever, except only in gross; and likewise, that they, their heirs and successors, co-burgesses of the said town, should thenceforth, for ever, freely have, enjoy and use in the said town, and elsewhere within the government, power and dominion of the said late king, where they should reach, all and singular the liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, privileges, cognizance of pleas, tolls and free customs, as freely and quietly as the burgesses of his town of Drogheda, on each side of the water daily enjoyed and used, and by the charters of confirmation of him and his predecessors had, or of right ought to have had, as freely and quietly, and in the same manner as the said burgesses of the town of Drogheda had used and enjoyed the same: saving to the lord of the town of Galway aforesaid, and his heirs, the rents, services, fines, amercements, issues and other profits to him and the lords of the said town, from the said town and the courts thereof belonging or appertaining, and as they and their ancestors, lords of the said town, more freely and quietly had received, or of right were accustomed to receive the same: and also, he granted for him and his heirs, to the said burgesses of the town of Galway, that although they or their heirs or successors, burgesses of the said town, the liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, privileges, cognizances, tolls and free customs aforesaid, or any of them, in any case whatsoever arising, should thenceforth abuse or not use, that they, the liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, privileges, cognizances, tolls and free customs aforesaid, and every of them, might thenceforth freely use and enjoy, without the hindrance or impediment of him, his heirs or ministers whomsoever, as in said letters is more fully contained.

And whereas also, the aforesaid lord Richard the Second, late king of England, on the 18th day of November, in the nineteenth year of his reign, by other his letters patent in aid of the said town of Galway (which was situated in the marshes between divers his enemies and rebels, as well English as Irish, and by their daily attacks was very much impoverished), as well for the safety of his

faithful people of the said town, to be enclosed with a stone wall, as of the parts adjacent, and in aid of the paving of the said town, granted to his beloved the provost and bailiffs and commonalities of the town of Galway, and their successors, that they might, by themselves, or by those who should be by them thereto deputed, take for all saleable things coming to the said town, by land or by water, or passing from the same, the customs or tolls underwritten; that is to say—For every pound of ginger for sale one penny, for every pound of saffron for sale two pence, for every pound of pepper for sale one farthing, for every pound of galingale for sale one penny, for every pound of cloves for sale one penny, for every pound of grains of paradise for sale one penny, for all other sorts of spices, of the value of twelve pence, for sale one farthing, for one hundred pounds of wax for sale six pence, for one hundred pounds of alum for sale three pence, for every hide tanned, fresh (green) or salted, and put or to be put into juice in the said town, and without, as far as the island which is called Eniskyreach, one halfpenny, for every pound of silk for sale three pence, for every piece of legis for sale four pence, for every piece of English cloth for sale three pence, for every piece of Irish linen cloth, containing twelve yards, one halfpenny, for every hundred weight of iron for sale two pence, for every bundle of rods of iron for sale one penny, for every seme of sables for sale one penny, for one hundred stones of Spanish iron for sale four pence, for every fotmel of lead for sale one halfpenny, for one hundred pounds of scroff one penny, for all kinds of goods, of the value of twelve pence, for sale one farthing, for one thousand spike-nails for sale one penny, for every frail of batry for sale eight pence, for every large kettle or large dish for sale four pence, for every hundred of bartry for sale four pence, for every ton of wine for sale six pence, for every pipe of wine for sale three pence, for every crannock of common malt for sale one penny, for every crannock of best malt for sale two pence, for every crannock of wheat for sale two pence, for every seme of corn for sale one halfpenny, for every seme of butter for sale one penny, for every last of butter for sale one penny, for every stone of tallow for sale one halfpenny, for every mease (500) of herrings for sale one halfpenny, for

every crannock of salt for sale one penny, for every crannock of barley, beans and peas, for sale one penny, for every crannock of oats and other corn for sale one penny, for every stone of wool for sale one penny, for every sack of wool for sale four pence, for every hide tanned, fresh or salted, for sale one halfpenny, for all manner of hides of the value of twelve pence, and of other hides of shorlings, for sale one penny, for one hundred wool-fells for sale one penny, for one hundred lamb-skins for sale two pence, for the value of twelve pence of other skins for sale one farthing, for every horse, of the price of forty shilling and upwards, for sale sixpence, for every pack horse, steer, bull, ox and cow for sale one penny, for every calf for sale one farthing, for every large hog for sale one penny, for every sheep or goat for sale one halfpenny, for every small hog one halfpenny, for one hundred rabbit skins for sale two pence, for one hundred wool-fells for sale three pence, for every hundred dry fish for sale one halfpenny, for one horse load of fish for sale two pence, for every salmon for sale one farthing, for one thousand eels and merlings for sale one penny, for every kind of timber and also for carts, small carts and boards, of the value of four shillings, one penny, for every falcon or hawk for sale one penny, for every tercel or tercelet for sale one halfpenny, for every millquern one penny, for two hand querns one farthing, for twelve crannocks of coal for sale one penny, for every stone of butter, hogs' lard, tallow and cheese, for sale one halfpenny, for every ton of honey for sale eight pence, for every pipe of salmon for sale eighteen pence, for every hundred weight of glass for sale one penny, for every hundred weight of scalphyn or other fish, salt, dry or hard, for sale one penny, for two thousand onions for sale one penny, for eight pounds of hemp and flax for sale one penny, for eight shanes of garlic for sale one farthing, for every new chest or box, and every thousand dishes and wooden platters, for sale one farthing, for one hundred pounds of pitch or rosin for sale one halfpenny, for one hundred gads of steel for sale one halfpenny, for every kind of ware of the value of twelve pence, of which no mention is above made, one farthing, for every kind of ware of the value of six shillings and eight pence for sale, not above expressed, one halfpenny, and for every kind of ware of the value of thirteen shillings

and four pence for sale, likewise not herein before contained, one penny: and, therefore, he commanded the aforesaid provost, bailiffs and commonalty of the said town of Galway, that they should cause and order the said customs and tolls, and every of them, from day to day, to be levied, collected received and had in the said town in manner aforesaid. Provided always, that the monies arising therefrom should be faithfully expended on the murage and paving of the said town, and not otherwise, as in the same letters is more fully contained.

Both which letters patents, and all grants in them contained, the lord Henry, the late king of England, our predecessor, by his letters patent, dated at Westminster, the 12th day of March, in the third year of his reign, accepted, approved, ratified, and to the aforesaid provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, by the tenor of the aforesaid letters, granted and confirmed; as the aforesaid letters reasonably testify, and as the said provost, bailiffs burgesses and commonalty, have always reasonably used and enjoyed the liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, privileges, cognizances, tolls and customs aforesaid, and every of them, as in the said letters of confirmation is likewise more fully contained.

And whereas, afterwards, lord Edward the Fourth, our grandfather, late king of England, by his letters patent, dated at Woodstock, the 28th day of August, in the fourth year of his reign, accepted, approved, ratified, and to the sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said town of Galway and their successors, granted and confirmed all and singular the letters patents aforesaid, and all and singular in them contained; and hath also pardoned, remitted and released unto them all and all manner of actions, demands, and all which to him our said grandfather, against them the said then sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, or their successors, by reason of the premises, or any of them, appertained or could appertain: And moreover, for the greater security of the then sovereign, provost, bailiffs and commonalty of the said town of Galway, and their successors aforesaid, of his more abundant grace, he granted to them, that they and their successors, all and singular the said customs and tolls specified in the said letters patent, on the 18th day of November aforesaid, to the aforesaid

provost, bailiffs and commonalty, as aforesaid, granted, from saleable articles coming to the said town of Galway by land or by water, or passing from the same by themselves or their ministers thereto, to be deputed in this behalf, from time to time, may take, receive, levy, have and retain, freely, quietly, well and peaceably for ever, without the hindrance, impediment or contradiction of his heirs, or other his officers or ministers whomsoever. Provided always, that the monies arising therefrom should be expended on the murage and pavage of the said town, and not otherwise, as aforesaid: And further, for the greater security and safeguard of the said town, the said lord Edward, our grandfather, willed and ordained that no person, of what estate, degree or condition he should be (his lieutenant and chancellor of our said land wholly excepted), should in any wise enter our said town, unless by the licence, assent and superintendence of the sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said town; as in the said letters of confirmation of our said grandfather is likewise more fully contained.

And whereas, also afterwards, Richard the Third late king of England, by his letters patent, dated at Westminster, the 15th day of December, in the second year of his reign, considering the premises, and that the said town of Galway might the better resist the enemies and rebels aforesaid, of his special grace, ratifying and allowing all and singular the letters patents above recited, and all and singular in them contained, for himself and his heirs, as much as in him lay, accepted approved, ratified, and to the then sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said town of Galway confirmed; and also all and all manner of actions and demands, and all which to him, the said king Richard, against them, the said sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, or their successors, by reason of the premises, or any of them appertained or could appertain, he pardoned, remitted and released; and moreover, for the greater security of them, the then sovereign, provost, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors aforesaid, of his more abundant grace granted, that they and their successors, all and singular the aforesaid tolls and customs,

specified in the said letters patent, of the 18th day of November, to the aforesaid provost, bailiffs and commonalty as aforesaid, made, from saleable articles coming to the said town of Galway by land or by water, or passing from the same by themselves or their ministers, to be deputated in this behalf, from time to time, may take, receive, levy, have and retain freely, quietly, well and peaceably, for ever, without the impediment or contradiction of him, the said king, his heirs or ministers whomsoever. Provided always, that the monies arising therefrom should be expended on the murage and pavage of the said town, and not otherwise, as aforesaid. And further, for the greater security and safeguard of the town of Galway aforesaid, the same late king willed and ordained, and by the same letters patent gave and granted licence unto the sovereign, provost, bailiffs and commonalty of our said town of Galway, that they might yearly, for ever, of their common assent, elect one mayor and two bailiffs within the said town of Galway, as is accustomed to be done in the town of Bristol, well and laudably to rule and govern the said town of Galway, and the laws and good customs therein, anciently used and approved of, to maintain and administer in all things as was becoming: and also, for the greater security and safeguard of the said town of Galway, he willed and ordained, that no person, of what estate, degree or condition soever he should be, should thenceforth, in any wise, enter the said town of Galway, unless by the licence, assent and superintendence of the said mayor, bailiffs and commonalty of the said town. Further, of his more abundant grace, and for the greater security and safeguard of the said town of Galway, he willed and ordained, and for himself and his heirs, as much as in him lay, granted that, thenceforth, neither the lord McWilliam, lord of Clanrickarde, nor his heirs, should have any rule or power within the said town of Galway, therein to act, receive, exact, ordain or dispose of any thing by land or by water, as he the said lord and his predecessors were anciently accustomed to receive and exact, without the special licence and by the assent and superintendence of the mayor, bailiffs and commonalty of the said town of Galway, to whom he gave, granted and attributed full power and authority to rule and govern the said town well and laudably in all

things, as was becoming, as in his said letters patent is more fully contained.

And we (Henry VIII) also considering the premises, and towards the aid, relief said, that merchants and others may be the more induced and encouraged to re- and comfort of our town of Galway aforesaid and inhabit in the said town, for the better resisting the malice of all enemies and rebels whomsoever, and especially of those parts; of our special grace, all and singular the letters patents above recited, and all and singular the matters in them contained, ratifying and approving, we do for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, accept, approve and ratify the same, and to the now mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our said town of Galway, their heirs and successors, by the tenor of these presents, we do give, grant and confirm: and also we have pardoned, remitted and released, and by these presents do pardon, remit and release, unto them and every of them, all and all manner of actions and demands, and all which can or may appertain to us, against them the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, or any of them, their or any of their heirs or successors, by reason of the premises, or any of them: and further, for the greater security of the said now mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our said town of Galway, their heirs and successors aforesaid, we do, of our more abundant grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, give and grant unto the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, their heirs and successors, all and singular the liberties, franchises, customs, usages, commodities, profits, matters, tolls, and all other things whatsoever, in the aforesaid several letters patents of the kings aforesaid, and every of them, specified and contained, without any resumption, forfeiture, or destroying of the letters patents aforesaid, or any of them, or of the aforesaid liberties, franchises, privileges, customs, usages, commodities, profits, things tollable, and all other things whatsoever, or any of them notwithstanding. We have likewise granted, and by these presents do give and grant unto the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, our port of Galway aforesaid, and the bay or arm of the sea which enters between the islands of Arran, and from thence runs or flows to our town of Galway aforesaid, and that all ships and boats which enter the port,

bay or arm aforesaid, loading and unloading at our town of Galway aforesaid, and no where else within the port, bay or arm aforesaid, nor in any land lying or being near the same, or in any water or rivulet running into the said bay or arm, or flowing from the same, and that the aforesaid burgesses and commonalty, and their heirs and successors for ever, be eased of the toll, lastage, passage, portage, murage, pavage, poundage, and all other customs and usages throughout all our kingdoms and power; and that every mayor of said town to be elected for the future, shall effectually take and perform the oath accustomed to be taken in that office, before that person who hath been next before him in the office of mayor of the said town, or before two others who have before borne that office in the said town; and that no person or persons, who shall, for the future, import wines in any ship or boat to the quay or port of Galway aforesaid, and there unload the said wines, shall pay prisage for such wines, because prisage has not hitherto been accustomed to be paid there: and that no merchant or merchants, foreign or native, who shall import into, or unload at the said town, or the port or quay of the said town, or export from, or load at the same, any merchandizes or wares, shall pay any customs, poundage or tolls, nor any other thing for the said wares or merchandizes, except only such customs, poundage or tolls, as were accustomed to be paid there in times past for such merchandizes or wares; and that the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of said town, their heirs and successors, and every of them, shall and may load and transport whithersoever they shall please, all and all manner of merchandizes and wares, as well of the staple as otherwise, woollen and linen only excepted, any statute, act or ordinance to the contrary thereof made notwithstanding. We have moreover granted, and do, by these presents, give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs and burgesses, and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid, their heirs and successors, and every of them, all and singular such liberties, usages, jurisdictions, privileges, franchises and customs, cognizance of pleas, as the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Drogheda, on both sides of the water, in our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, have or had, or reasonably used and enjoyed, as freely and

quietly, and after the same manner as the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Drogheda have used and enjoyed the same, without the hindrance, disturbance, molestation, impediment or grievance of us, our heirs or successors, or of the lieutenant deputy of our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, the justices, sheriffs, escheators, coroners, seneschals, bailiffs or other ministers or officers of us, our heirs or successors whomsoever, or any other whomsoever: saving to us and our heirs, the rents, fees, farms, services, amerancements, issues and other profits, to us and our ancestors, lords of the town aforesaid, out of the said town and the courts of the same issuing, belonging or appertaining, as we and our ancestors, lords of the town aforesaid, freely and quietly had, or of right ought and were accustomed to receive the same: saving also to us, our heirs and successors, the customs of every last of hides in the port of said town, which is called the cocket, as we have or of right ought to have received the same; saving also to the provost and burgesses of the town of Athenry and their successors, in our said town of Galway, and the port of the same, all and singular such liberties, franchises and privileges, as the provost and burgesses of Athenry aforesaid, or any of them, were or was accustomed or used to have in times past in our said town of Galway, and in the port of the same; these our present letters patent, nor any thing in them contained and specified, in any wise notwithstanding: Although express mention of the true yearly or any other value, or of the certainty of the premises, or any of them, or of other gifts or grants by us, or of any of our progenitors or predecessors, to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town of Galway aforesaid, or any of them heretofore made, in these presents, is not made, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision or restriction to the contrary thereof made, published, ordained or provided, or any other matter, cause or thing whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness myself at Westminster, the 3d day of July, in the 36th year of our reign.

We also (Edw. VI.) ratifying and approving the letters aforesaid, and all and singular the matters in them contained, do for us and our heirs as much as in us

lieth, accept and approve the same, and to our beloved the present mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of Galway aforesaid, and their successors of the said town, by the tenor of these presents, do ratify and confirm, as the said letters do reasonably testify. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness myself at Westminster, the 8th day of November, in the third year of our reign.

Know ye that we (Queen Eliz.), of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, have given, granted, confirmed, ratified and approved, and by these our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, we do give, grant, confirm, ratify and approve unto Peter Lynche, now mayor of our said town of Galway, in our said kingdom of Ireland, John Blake and Francis Martin, now bailiffs of the said town, the burgesses and commonalty of the said town, and their successors for ever, by whatsoever name or names of incorporation, or other name, they, or any of them, in any letters patent of any of our progenitors or predecessors, or in any other manner was or were, at any time, incorporated, called, named or known, all and singular the privileges, franchises, liberties, advantages, jurisdictions, customs, emoluments, forfeitures, prescriptions, uses, usages, cognizances of pleas, honors, dignities, elections, donations, grants, authorities, fines, redemptions, amerciaments, issues, and all other profits and hereditaments whatsoever in the aforesaid letters patents, and in all and singular other letters patent in them respected and recited, contained, granted, specified and expressed, in as ample manner and form, and as fully, freely and entirely as the said letters patents testify, likewise in as ample manner and form as they or their predecessors, at any time had, or ought to have had, held, occupied, used or enjoyed the same, by reason of any prescription, use or custom, or by reason or pretext of any other matter, cause or thing whatsoever, although they or their predecessors, or any of them, have or hath ill-used or abused, the premises or any of them. And moreover, of our more abundant special grace, of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as

in us lieth, we do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, full power and authority to elect, make, constitute and create yearly, on the Monday next after the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, in the guild-hall or tholsel of the said town, a recorder, coroner, escheator, customer, comptroller of customs, searcher, gauger, and all other officers and ministers whomsoever necessary and convenient within the said town, and the franchises and liberties of the same: and that the said recorder, coroner, escheator, customer, comptroller of customs, searcher, gauger, and all other officers and ministers whomsoever, so by the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors, from time to time, elected, made, constituted and created, and every of them, shall have full power and authority to do and exercise all and singular things which, to the offices and officers aforesaid and every of them, do or ought to appertain or belong, and to receive, have and levy, to their proper use, all and singular fees, regards, commodities and profits whatsoever to the officers aforesaid and every of them appertaining and belonging, as fully, freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as any other recorder, coroner, escheator, customer, controller of customs, searcher, gauger, or any other such officers or ministers, or any of them, may or can do, exercise, have, receive, levy and enjoy, in any towns, cities, or other places within our said kingdom of Ireland: and that no other recorder, coroner, escheator, customer, comptroller of customs, searcher, gauger, or any other such officers or ministers of us, our heirs or successors, shall enter or in any wise intrude themselves to exercise or have said offices within the town aforesaid, the franchises and liberties thereof. And moreover, of our more ample grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these, our present letters patent, we do for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, full power and authority to give and grant, with the licence of the deputy or governor of our said kingdom of Ireland, from time to time, in writing first obtained, as well in time of war as in time

of peace, to all and singular foreign merchants, from time to time coming and willing to come to the said town, for the purpose of merchandizing, and with merchandize, safe and secure conduct and protection to come to the town aforesaid, and return from the same, safely and securely, with their ships, boats, goods and merchandize, freely and quietly, without the impediment, hindrance, claim, molestation or grievance of us, our heirs or successors, or of any lieutenants, deputies, justices or other officers or ministers of us, ours heirs or successors, whomsoever. And further, of our own more abundant grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these, our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, we do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our said town, and their successors for ever, that the said mayor of our said town, who now is, during the time he shall be mayor of the said town, shall be the admiral of us, our heirs and successors, within the town aforesaid, and the liberties and franchises of the same, and within and over the islands of Arran, and from the said islands to Galway aforesaid, on each side of the water there, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, and that all and singular other mayors of our town aforesaid, for the time being mayors of the said town, so long as they shall be mayors of the same, shall be the admirals of us, our heirs and successors, and every of them, for the time he shall be mayor of the said town, as long as he shall be mayor of the same, shall be the admiral of us, our heirs and successors, within the port, bay, town, liberties, franchises and suburbs of Galway aforesaid, and within and over the islands of Arran, and from the said islands to Galway aforesaid on each side of the water there, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters; and that the aforesaid mayor, who now is, and every other mayor for the time being, in the said town, shall have full power, authority and jurisdiction, from time to time, to inquire, hear, determine, do, exercise and execute all and singular things appertaining and belonging to the office and jurisdiction of admiral within the port, bay, town, liberties, franchises, suburbs, islands and places aforesaid, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters afore-

said, in as ample manner and form, and as fully, freely and entirely, as our admiral or the admirals of our heirs and successors for the time being, in any place within our kingdom of England, or within our kingdom of Ireland can or may inquire, hear, determine, do, exercise or execute; and that no admiral of us, our heirs or successors, shall have or exercise any power, authority or jurisdiction within the port, bay, liberties, franchises, suburbs, islands and places aforesaid, by sea or land or fresh waters, nor in any manner in or concerning any thing which to the office of admiral appertain, within the port, bay, liberties, franchises, suburbs, islands and places aforesaid, can or may intrude; and that the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, may have, enjoy, receive and levy for the common use of the town aforesaid, all and singular wrecks of the sea, forfeitures, fines, amerciaments, redemptions, issues, commodities, advantages, emoluments and profits whatsoever, within the port, bay, town, liberties, franchises, suburbs, islands and places aforesaid, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, by reason of his admiralty or admiral's jurisdiction, forfeited, accruing and arising, or to be hereafter forfeited, accruing and arising; and that the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, may and can, from time to time, put themselves into full possession and seizen of and in all and singular the said wrecks of the sea, forfeitures, fines, amerciaments, redemptions, issues, commodities, emoluments and profits whatsoever, and the same to raise, receive, take, collect, and have by themselves or their officers, or any of them, and to retain the same without any account or other thing to us, our heirs or successors, or to any admiral of us, our heirs or successors, to be rendered, paid or made. And further, of our more abundant special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we do give and grant unto the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, that no burgesses, inhabiting, dwelling or residing within the town, franchises and liberties of Galway aforesaid, or any of them, shall hereafter be drawn or compelled to come out of the town, the franchises and liberties of Galway afore-

said, before any justices, barons, commissioners, and other our officers whomsoever, to any assizes, sessions, inquests or juries in our city of Dublin, or in the county of Dublin, or elsewhere within our kingdom of Ireland to be held, concerning any matter or matters, cause or causes, thing or things, arisen, done or committed, or to arise, be done, or committed within the said town, the franchises and liberties of the same: nor shall the said burgesses, inhabiting, dwelling or residing within the said town, the franchises and liberties of the same, or any of them, be put, empanelled, returned, or sworn without the town of Galway, for any matter, forfeiture or cause, growing or arising, or to arise, be done, committed, grow, or happen within the said town of Galway, the franchises and liberties of the same, before any justices, barons, commissioners or other our officers whomsoever, in any assizes, juries, attainments, recognizances, or other inquiries whatsoever, in the said city of Dublin, or in the said county of Dublin, or elsewhere within our said kingdom of Ireland, to be taken, arrayed or returned, though they should concern us, our heirs or successors, or any other whomsoever, but only within our town of Galway aforesaid, the franchises and liberties of the same, before our justices, barons, commissioners, or other officers whomsoever, when we, our heirs and successors, from time to time, shall see expedient.

Moreover, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given, granted, and by these, our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us, our heirs and successors, lieth, we do give and grant unto the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, that no merchant or merchants, foreign or native, who shall import or unload, transport or load any merchandize, saleable goods or wares whatsoever, to the town aforesaid, or at the port or bay of the said town or from the town aforesaid, or from the port or quay of the same, by land or by water, shall pay or give, or be compelled to pay or give, customs, poundage, tolls or other burthens, things or dues whatsoever, to us, our heirs or successors, or to any other person or persons for such merchandize, saleable goods or wares, or any part of the same, save only the cus-

toms and burthens following, viz: All and singular which customs, burthens and usages aforesaid, we do, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, give and grant for us, our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors, for ever granting and commanding that they, the usages, burthens and customs aforesaid, and every of them, in the town aforesaid, in form aforesaid, from day to day, shall cause and ordain to be levied, collected, received and had: Provided always, that the monies arising thereout shall be faithfully expended on the murage and pavage of said town, and not elsewhere or otherwise.

Moreover, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty and their successors for ever, that they, the now mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, and every of them, may and can, from time to time, assemble, prepare and collect themselves, and every of them, and all and singular the other inhabitants of the town aforesaid, with all and singular their friends, servants, tenants and adherents, and every of them, at their and every of their will and pleasure, with defensive arms or otherwise, as to them or any of them shall seem most expedient, within the town aforesaid, the liberties, franchises and suburbs of the same, or without, in any other place whatsoever, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, to resist, repel, recover and vindicate all and singular robberies, spoils, depredations and other injuries, damages and crimes whatsoever, against them, or any of them, made, perpetrated, offered or committed, by any of the neighbouring Irish, or by any rebels, malefactors or disturbers of the peace of us, our heirs and successors; and that it shall and be lawful for them, the now mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors, and all other the inhabitants of the town aforesaid, and every of them, with their friends, servants tenants and adherents, from time to time, for ever, to pass, ride, sail, and go by sea, with arms, ammunition, flags displayed in

warlike manner, or otherwise, as they and every of them shall think proper, to any country, island, arm of the sea, or place whatsoever, to prosecute, take, recover and vindicate robberies, felonies, spoils, depredations, injuries and crimes whatsoever made, offered or committed against them, or any of them; and to have, recover, distrain, make and receive recompence, distresses, restitution and evictions for such robberies, felonies, spoils, depredations, injuries and crimes against the said rebels, depredators and malefactors and every of them, without the hindrance, calumny, molestation, grievance, disquiet, suit, vexation, disturbance or impediment of us, our heirs or successors, lieutenants, deputies, justices, sheriffs, or other the officers or ministers of us, our heirs or successors whomsoever; any statute, act, ordinance, restriction, law, use, prescription, proclamation, or any other matter, cause or thing whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding.—And further, of our more ample grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and do, by these present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, we do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, that every mayor and every recorder of the town aforesaid, for the time being, during the time that they, or any of them, or their successors, shall be mayor or recorder of the town aforesaid, or that they or any of them shall bear and exercise the offices of mayor and recorder of the town aforesaid, that they and every of them shall be keepers and justices of the peace for us, our heirs and successors, and the justices of us, our heirs and successors, for the delivery of the gaol of us, our heirs and successors, from time to time, for ever, within the town aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, for felonies and other misdemeanours committed within the said town, the suburbs, franchises and liberties thereof; and we do for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, make, constitute, create and ordain all and singular mayor and mayors, recorder and recorders of the town aforesaid, and every of them, for the time being, for ever, keepers and justices of the peace for us, our heirs and successors, and justices of us, our heirs

and successors, of gaol delivery, from time to time, within the town aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, for the felonies and misdemeanours aforesaid; and that all and singular mayors and recorders of the said town, for the time being, and every of them, for ever, shall and may have full power, authority and jurisdictions to enquire and examine, by the oath of good and lawful men of the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, of and concerning all and singular felonies, murders, rebellions, transgressions, riots, routs, conventicles, meetings, ambushades, conspiracies, concealments, misprisons and other crimes, offences and misdeeds whatsoever done, committed or perpetrated, or hereafter to be done, committed or perpetrated within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, and of all and concerning all and singular entries into any land or tenement by strong hand; and likewise of entries made, or to be made, into such lands or tenements peaceably, and afterwards held or to be held by force, power or strong hand within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same; and also of all and singular articles, and statutes, for the delivery of cloth and hoods, and concerning labourers, servants, vagabonds, carpenters, artisans, weights, measures, victuals, tanners of hides, slaters, inn-keepers, and of all and singular articles contained in any statutes whatsoever now set forth and provided: likewise of all and singular articles and things whatsoever, of which any justices or keepers of our peace, or any justices of gaol delivery in any other place within our kingdom, of England, or within our kingdom of Ireland can inquire, and to do, exercise and execute the premises, and all and singular or matters within the town aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, which to the offices of keeper, or justice of the peace, or justices of gaol delivery, or any of them, appertain or belong, and all and singular the same to hear, determine and adjudge, according to the law and custom of our kingdom of Ireland: and that no keeper or justice, keepers or justices of the peace of us, our heirs or successors, assigned or to be assigned, in any county,

or in any other place within our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, shall enter, or in any wise intrude, to inquire concerning the premises, or any of them, or to hear, determine or adjudge them, or any of them, or to do, exercise, or execute any other thing which appertains or belongs to the office or offices of keeper or justice of the peace, or to the office of justice of gaol delivery, within the town aforesaid, the franchises, liberties or suburbs of the same, by sea, land or fresh waters; and that if any inquest or any indictment, presentment or any other thing whatsoever, within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof, before any other keepers or justices of the peace of us, our heirs or successors, or for the delivery of the gaol of us, our heirs or successors, or before any of them, assigned or to be assigned, in any other county or place, such inquiry, indictment, or other thing whatsoever, which shall be made, determined or adjudged within the town aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, before the aforesaid other keepers or justices of the peace of us, our heirs or successors, or before the aforesaid justices of us, our heirs or successors, assigned for the delivery of the gaol of us, our heirs or successors, shall be held as null and void, and of no force or effect.

And, moreover, of our special grace, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, we do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and to their successors for ever, that no sheriff, escheator, or other officers or ministers of us, our heirs or successors, or any of them, except the bailiffs and other officers of the said town, shall in any wise enter the said town, the franchises, liberties or suburbs thereof, to do or exercise their office in any manner whatsoever, nor shall they or any of them intermeddle or intrude in any manner within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same:—and that the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty, and their successors for ever, shall and may have and hold a gaol and prison within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof, wheresoever they shall think expedient; and that they may and can,

for them and their successors for ever, have and retain a keeper of the gaol and prison aforesaid, prisoners in the same from time to time to incarcerate and imprison, for whatsoever cause or crime they or any of them, shall be taken, attached or arrested, within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same; and likewise them, and every of them, to detain and keep by themselves, or by their ministers thereunto deputed, and also them so incarcerated and imprisoned, according to due form of law, on bail or otherwise, at their discretion, to give up, liberate or enlarge.—And further, of our more abundant special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these our present letters patent do for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town of Galway aforesaid, and their successors for ever, all and singular such and the like liberties, franchises and privileges, pre-eminences, jurisdictions, authorities, easements, immunities, profits, commodities, advantages, customs, usages, forfeitures, issues, fines, redemptions and other hereditaments and things whatsoever, as the mayor, sheriffs and citizens of our city of Waterford, in our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, or the mayor, sheriffs and commonalty of our town of Drogheda, in our kingdom of Ireland aforesaid, and every of them, have, or ought to have held, enjoy and use, by reason, force or pretext of any grants or letters patent of us, or any of our progenitors or predecessors whatsoever, or by reason, force or pretext of any use, custom, statute, or any other matter, cause or thing whatsoever, within our said city of Waterford, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof, and within our town of Drogheda aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs thereof; and that the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid and their successors for ever, shall have full power and authority to do, receive, deliver, administer, exercise and execute all and singular things which appertain and belong to the aforesaid, liberties, franchises, privileges, pre-eminences, jurisdictions, authorities, easements, immunities, profits, commodities, advantages, customs, usages, forfeitures,

issues, fines, redemptions and other hereditaments and things whatsoever, within our town of Galway aforesaid, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, as well by sea as by land and fresh waters, in as ample manner and form, and as fully, freely and entirely as the said mayor, sheriffs and citizens of our said city of Waterford, within the said city of Waterford, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, or as the said mayor, sheriffs and commonalty of our said town of Drogheda, or any of them, within the said town, the franchises, liberties and suburbs of the same, may or can, in any manner, do, receive, deliver, administer, exercise and execute:—And further of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and, by these our present letters patent, for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us lieth, we do give and grant to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid, and their successors for ever, that all and singular the articles, clauses, sentences and grants in these letters patent, and in all and singular other letters patent, by us, or by any of our progenitors or predecessors, to the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid, or to their predecessors or any of them granted shall be accepted, judged, understood, interpreted and construed in as bountiful and favorable a manner as may be and not otherwise, nor in any other manner, to the advantage and profit of the said mayor and bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid, against us, our heirs and successors, in all courts whatsoever of us, our heirs and successors, and before all judges, justices, barons of the Exchequer, and other officers and ministers of us, our heirs and successors whomsoever; although express mention of the true yearly value, or of the certainty of the premises of any of them, or of other gifts or grants by us, or by any of our progenitors aforesaid to the said mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of our town of Galway aforesaid, or to any of them heretofore granted, is not made in these presents, or any statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation or restriction, to the contrary thereof made, published, ordained or provided; or any matter, cause or thing whatsoever, in any

wise, notwithstanding. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness myself at Gorbambury, the 14th day of July, in the 20th year of our reign.

By the Queen herself, and of the date aforesaid.

Articles of surrender to Cromwell's forces, 1652.

Articles of agreement concluded and agreed upon by and between colonel John Cole, colonel Robert Russell, lieutenant colonel John Puckle, major John King, major Alexander Brayfield, adjutant general Holcroft, and captain Oliver St. George, commissioners appointed by the right honorable Sir Charles Coote, knight and baronet, lord president of Connaught, on the behalfe of the parliament of the commonwealth of England, of the one part; and Sir Robuck Lynch, baronet, Sir Valentine Blake, knight and baronet, Sir Richard Blake, knight, Sir Oliver French, knight, John Blake, esquire, Arthur Lynch, esquire, one of the sheriffs of Gallway, Thomas Lynch and Dominick Blake, of Gallway, burgesses, for and on behalf of themselves, and the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of Gallway, and of the freemen, natives inhabitants and residents thereof, of the other part; bearing date the 5th day of April, 1652, concerning the rendition and surrender of the town of Gallway, as followeth:

I. Imprimis—It is concluded, accorded and agreed, by and between the said parties, that the towne of Gallway, the forts, fortifications, artilleries, magazines, amunicon, and all other furniture of warr thereunto belonging shall be delivered unto Sir Charles Coote, knight and baronet, lord president of Connaught, or whom he shall appointe for the use of the commonwealth of England, by or upon the 12th instant, at tenn of the clock in the morning in consideracon of the articles hereafter specified.

II. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that, in consideracon of the said surrender, all persons, of what degree or quality soever, within the said towne, shall have quarter for their lives and liberty of their persons, without any pillage, plunder, or military violence to their persons or goods, during their obedience to the

lawes and government of the parliament of the commonwealth of England, by virtue of the ensuing articles respectively, and those articles to extend to all such as are free of the said towne of Gallway, their wives, widdows, factors and tenants in the country, or beyond the seas, provided that by freemen it be understood only the native merchants, inhabitants and tradesmen of the said towne, and not lords, or any other persons who have not attained their freedom by meritt, or undergone publique offices in the said corporacon.

III. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that all persons, of what quality soever, comprehended within the said articles, shall have six months time to departe (if they desire it) with their goods to any parte of this nation, or beyond the seas; and that they shall have effectual passes for themselves and their goods, and shall be protected in the meane time, and have liberty to sell their estates and goods, provided that amunicon and all armes (save travailing armes, which they may carry with them), and other furniture of warr, be not included in this article.

IV. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that the clergymen now in Gallway shall have liberty to continue there six months after the conclusion of this treaty, and shall have effectuall passes (when they desire it within that time) for themselves, and the goods properly belonging to them, to go beyond seas, provided that during that time they act nothing prejudiciall to the state of England; and likewise that the names of all such clergymen shall be made known to the lord president before the surrender of the said towne; and that all manner of persons, of what quality soever, according to the exposition of the second article, that have indemnity for all past offences, criminal and capitall, acts and offences done in the prosecucion of this warr, from the 23rd of October, 1641, untill the conclusion of this treaty (except Brian Roe Mahon More, Stephen Lynch, Dominick Kirwan and Walter Martin, who had their hands immediately in the effusion of the blood of captain Clark's men, and such other person or persons as shall be hereafter found by good proofs to have had their immediate hands in any particular murther of the English or pro-

testant people, before the corporation entered into acts of hostility first) in this war, which was on the 19th of March, 1641, and all such persons (excepting before accepted) that for the future shall submit to the government of the parliament of the commonwealth of Eng, shall be admitted to doo and to live at their homes, or with their friends, and shall have protection, during their obedience to the said government, to their persons, goods and estates, on the same terms that the rest of the inhabitants of the county, of the same condition and qualifications with themselves, have, soe as the benefit of the protection last mentioned in the article shall not extend to clergymen further than six months, as before mentioned.

V. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that all persons whatsoever included in the second article, who are willing to submit to the government of the parliament of the commonwealth of England (except as before excepted in the fourth article), shall enjoy their respective estates and interests to themselves and their heirs for ever, in all and every the houses estates, lands, tenements and hereditaments, which in the said town, and the old and new liberties and franchises thereof, so far as the power of the sheriffs of Gallway extends, and the burgage lands belonging to the said town, without any exception, diminution, marke of distinction, or removal of persons or families whatsoever, unless it be upon just grounds and good proofes of their future misdemeanour, which may endanger the security of the said town, and in that case such persons to be at liberty to carry away their goods, and to lett or sell their houses and estates to their best advantage, paying (in cases of sale) a third part of the price they make to the use of the state of England, and that noe contribution or other imposition be charged upon the said town, or any of the natives or inhabitants thereof, but in proportion with the subjects of the said state residing in cities or towns in England or Ireland, according to their respective fortunes and interests; and that they, and every of them, shall quietly enjoy two parts of all their real estates in three arts, to be divided to themselves and their heirs for ever, in all other parts whatsoever within this dominion,

not before expressed in this article, paying contribution thereout in proportion with their neighbours, under the laws, obedience and government of the parliament; and in case any parte of their reall estates shall happen to be contiguous to any considerable castle, fortification or streight within this dominion, conceived to be necessary for any particular plantation, that then such person or persons (proprietor of the same) shall be satisfied and paid (in case there be castles and houses upon the lands so taken from them) the full value of such castles and houses, according as indifferent men mutually named by the proprietors, and such as shall be intrusted by the state, shall agree upon; and, upon any difference between them, an umpire shall be named by both parties to determine the same, or the proprietors to be satisfied in other castles and houses of equal value and goodnes with their owne, and shall have exchange of lands, tenements and hereditaments, of like quantity and value with the lands, tenements and hereditaments so taken from them as aforesaid, and both the castles, houses, lands, tenements and hereditaments to be in such county where the saide castles, houses, lands, tenements and hereditaments so taken from them lie, unless the said county be entirely sett aparte for a plantation, and then the above satisfaction shall be given to them in the next adjacent county, within the said province, that shall not be so entirely planted as aforesaid; and that, upon surrender of the said town, they, and every of them, shall and may enter into, and enjoy the possessions of their real estates (notwithstanding any custodians or leases granted to them), and continue in possession of them until some persons be appointed, by the parliament or their ministers, to dispose of one-third parte thereof for the use of the parliament, as is agreed in the preceding articles; and that they, and every of them, shall enjoy, freely, all their goods and chatters, real and personal, wheresoever the same shall be (all arms, amunition, and other furniture of war, travailing arms excepted), to themselves, their executors and assigns: and for the difference which did arise between the said parties, concerning the composition of five thousand pounds, demanded and insisted upon, in consideration of the

thirde parte of the said goods and chattels, the same is referred, by consent of both parties, to the commissioners or other chief ministers of the parliament in this dominion, to whom the said towne are to make their application for remittal or mitigation of the said composition, or otherwise the said five thousand pounds to be paid to the use of the state of England.

VI. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said towne, and their successors, shall have and enjoy all liberties, customs, priviledges and immunities granted to them by charter, and shall hereafter be governed by their charter, priviledges and fundamental laws of England, as in times of peace, until the parliament, or their ministers appointed to that purpose, shall confirme, renew, alter or enlarge the same, and that they shall have full liberty to trade att home and abroad as other English subjects have; and that all prisoners, being natives or inhabitants of the said towne, and soldiers of the garrison of Galway and Isles of Aran, in pay, shall be sett at liberty without ransome: and if it shall happen, after this agreement, that any person or persons included in these articles, or any shipp, goods or merchandize belonging to them, or any of them, be taken by sea or land, coming to the said town, or going from it, they shall be sett at liberty, and their goods and merchandizes shall be restored to them as aforesaid, provided they act nothing prejudicial to the state; and that all things belonging to any person or persons, franchised by them, or any of them, shall remain to the disposal of the owner, except such shipp as, by any former articles, are agreed upon to the contrary, and that the disbursements of those who carted the houses of absentees shall be secured unto them for the time past, only so far as law and the custome and priviledges of the towne charter will justifie the same.

VII. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that in case of breach of these articles, or any of them, the same shall not be deemed or construed, but the act of such person or persons as shall be found to be actors thereof, and they only to be proceeded

against as the law prescribes.

VIII. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that the said president shall procure these articles, and all and every particular in them containd, and depending on them, within twenty days, to be ratified, approved and confirmed, by the commissioners or other chief ministers of the parliament in Ireland; and likewise that the lord president shall, with as much speed as may be, promise those articles to be secured by an act of parliament, to be passed for that purpose in England, and in the mean time, shall be as inviolably observed and kept to them as if they were enacted in parliament.

IX. It is concluded and agreed upon, by and between the said parties, that Sir Valentine Blake, Sir Oliver Ffrench, John Blake, esq. and Dom. Blake, be this day declared as hostages, and the new castle over against Tyrriland, and the forte in Mutton-island, to be surrendered to-morrow, by twelve of the clock, to the lord president, or whom he shall appoint for the performance of the surrender. In witness whereof, the said parties, to these presents have interchangeably set their hands, the day and year above written.

Robert Lynch.	Robert Russell.
Valentine Blake.	John King.
Oliver Ffrench.	Alex. Brayfield.
Thomas Lynch.	Oliver St. George.
John Blake.	John Cole.
Arthur Lynch.	John Puckle.
Dominick Blake.	Charles Holcroft.

**Order by the Commissioners of Parliament
concerning the Articles of Galway.
Dublin, 11th April, 1652.**

Upon serious consideration taken of the articles agreed upon for a surrender of Galway, and advice thereupon, had at a council of war, it was ordered as followeth.

I. That we cannot consent that any persons who were actors or had a hand in the murders, massacres or robberies, committed upon the English or protestants in Ire. and in the first year of the rebellion, or in any other murders or massacres since the said first year, committed by or upon any person not being in arms, should have any benefit by the articles for the surrender of Gallway, other than for their marching out of the towne, to such place as is or shall be agreed upon.

II. We cannot consent that such inhabitants and citizens of Gallway, who shall be thought fit, by the parliament or their ministers, to be removed out of the said towne of Gallway, in order to the security thereof, shall be permitted to enjoy their estates and interests in the towne, otherwise than was offered by the late lord deputy to the city of Limerick, (that is to say,) that no inhabitant or cittyzen of Gallway be permitted to enjoy their interests in the houses or other reall estate in that towne, who shall be thought fitt, by the parliament or their ministers, to be removed out of the said garrison in order to the security thereof, but in such case such person so to be removed shall have liberty to sell their said houses and other estate to the best advantage of themselves, their heirs or assigns, paying (in case of sale) a third part of the price they make to the use of the common-wealth, and shall have three months time (after warning given them to depart) for the removal and disposal of themselves, their families and goods as they shall please, and protection to bee in any part of the dominion within the power of the parliament, not being a garrison nor county set apart to be planted with English, or shall have liberty to remove to any foreign parts if they desire it.

III. That we cannot consent that tenants or factors in the country, or beyond the seas, shall be included by these articles, as the words in the second article do import.

IV. As to that clause in the articles which relates to the real estates lying without the towne and the liberties thereof, belonging to the freemen of Gallway, wee cannot consent any further therein, than that they doe enjoye two parts in three of the same, or of the value thereof, as the parliament shall direct.

V. We cannot consent that any absentees, who have adhered to the parliament, should have their houses detained from them by virtue of the latter part of the sixth article.

VI. We cannot consent that the governor, soldiers and inhabitants of the isles of Arran, should have any other conditions, as to their reall estates, than such as are granted to the freemen of Gallway for the lands lying in the country.

VII. Wee doe consente that the exceptions of those that had a hand in the

murthers of captain Clark's men should extend noe further than to those persons that are named in the said exceptions, and those that had an immediate hand in that murther, or gave order or command for the murthering of them, and not to extend to such as only gave order or consented unto the seizure of the said shipp.

VIII. That if they shall consent to those resolutions, wee shall then give our consent to the articles with the said alterations.

Certificate of Assent.

Wee, whose names are hereunder written, being comprehended in the capitulations for the surrender of Gallway, doe hereby signify our assent unto, and approve of the qualifications and limitations made by the commissioners of the parliament of the commonwealth of England to the articles for surrender of Gallway, concluded upon the said capitulation, as the said qualifications and limitations are presented unto us by the annexed paper, bearing date at Dublin, the 11th day of April, 1652. And wee doe hereby signifie our acceptation of the said articles and conditions therein contained, as the same are qualified and limited in the said annexed paper. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

The following only signed.

Dominick Browne, knt.	Richard Bexford.
Marcus Browne.	Andrew Morish.
Marcus Kirwan.	John Joyes.
Edmond Ffrench.	Alexander Warren.

A note of the town's-men of Galway that refuse to sign. October 26th, 1652.

Marcus Lynch, mayor.	James Martin.
Alex. Lynche,	Nicholas Athey.
W. Oge Martine, sheriffs.	Patrick Kirwan.
John Lynch.	John Lynche, Cler.
James Darcy, alderman.	Pierce Lynche.
Sir Oliver French.	John Lynche.
A. Lynch Fitz- Stephen.	Jarpheowe Ffrench.
John Blake, recorder.	Thomas Browne.
Richard Joyce,	Peter Lynche.
Martin Lynche.	Warden Ffrench.
	James Ffrench.
	George Oge Martin.
	Jeffrey Lynche.
	Richard Lynche.
	M. Lynch Fitz-Nich.

James Oge Lynche.	S. Ffrench Fitz-
Nicholas Lynche.	Patrick.
Edw. Ffrench,	F. Ffrench Fitz-
burgess.	Francis.
Walter Joyce.	Jn. Joyce Fitz-
Francis Kirwan.	Andrew.
John Blake.	J. Lynch Fitz-
Anthony Ffrench.	Gregory.
Laurence Begg.	Jas. Lynch Fitz-
William Kerowan.	James.
John Kerowan.	Jno. Lynch Fitz-
Nicholas Oge Blake.	James.
Thomas Bege.	J. Bodkin Fitz-
J. Lynch Fitz-	Laurence.
Thomas.	Dominick Roe
A. Lynch Fitz-	Ffrench.
Marcus.	R. Kirwan Fitz-
J. Lynch Fitz-	Marcus.
Dominick.	P. Ffrench Fitz-
T. Lynch Fitz-	George.
Christoph.	P. Ffrench Fitz-
Ignatius Lynch.	Oliver.
George Joyce.	D. Ffrench Fitz-
P. Browne F.-	Anthony.
Anthony.	R. Barrett Fitz-
P. Kirwan Fitz-	William.
Francis.	Robert Oge Blake.
J. Ffrench F.-	R. Blake Fitz-
Dominick.	Andrew.
Dominick Ffrench.	J. Lynch F.-
N. Browne Fitz-	Christopher.
James.	Pat. Lynch Fitz-
Andw. Lynch Fitz-	Marcus.
John.	W. Martin Fitz-
C. Blake Fitz-	Robert.
William.	Richd. Bodkin Fitz-
A. Lynch Fitz-	John.
Thomas.	John Bodkin Fitz-
O. Kirwan Fitz-	John.
Pierce.	Pierce Butler.
Oliver Kirwan Fitz-	Pierce Lynch.
John.	John Bourke.
John Bermingham.	Michael Browne.
And. Bodkin Fitz-	Edw. Browne Fitz-
Lewis.	Peter.
E. Bodkin Fitz-	Martin Ffallon.
Patrick.	Jas. Skerrett,
V. Ffrench Fitz-	merchant.
Thomas.	J. Skerrett Fitz-
P. Lynch Fitz-	Andrew.
Anthony.	M. Skerrett Fitz-
Andrew Morris.	John.
Pierce Oge Lynch.	Ed. Kirwan Fitz-
Mathew D'Arcy.	Patrick, alderman.
Jeoffrey Ffrench.	Jas. Kirwan Fitz-
Gregory Browne.	Marcus.
Nich. Oge French	A. Ffallon Fitz-
Fitz-Nicholas.	Thomas.
	Martin Ffallon.

A note of the town's-men that refuses to sign, continued.

E. Browne Fitz-Thomas.	W. Bodkin Fitz-Patrick.	Nicholas Burke. Laurence Athey.	Martin Browne. Thomas Oge Tarpv. Richard Flynne.
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A note of what town's-men are absent.

Sir Robert Lynche.	P. Ffrench Fitz-Pierce.	Pierce Lynch Fitz-Oliver.	F. Browne Fitz-Edward.
Sir Valentine Blake.	Nich. Kirwan, merchant.	Walter Joyce Fitz-John.	A. Lynch F.-Dominick.
Sir Walter Blake.	N. R. Ffrench F.-Robert.	Geof. Blake Fitz-James.	J. Lynch Fitz-Geofrey.
R. Kirwan, late mayor.	J. Ffrench Fitz-Arthur.	M. Blake Fitz-Andrew.	A. Lynch Fitz-Thomas.
W. Blake Fitz-Andrew.	M. Joyce Fitz-Marcus.	Thomas Oge Kirwan	N. Browne F.-Dominick.
Andrew Oge Blake.	Pat. Joyce Fitz-Marcus.	Dom. Lynch Fitz-John.	H. Browne F.-Dominick.
Am.b. Bodkin Fitz-John.	Rob. Martin Fitz-Jasper.	D. Blake Fitz-Robert.	Pat. Lynch Fitz-Ulick.
Dom. Bodkin Fitz-John.	Thomas Martin.	M. Kirwan Fitz-Andrew.	Jas. Joyce Fitz-Marcus.
T. Lynch Fitz-Patrick.	Dominick D'Arey.	S. Lynch Fitz-Nicholas.	Geof. Lynch Fitz-John.
J. Martin Fitz-Geofrey.	Robert Deane.	Val. Blake Fitz-Peter.	M. Kirwan Fitz-James.
M. Martin Fitz-Nicholas.	Peter Skerret.	C. Ffrench Fitz-Geofry.	Robert Oge Skerret.
T. Lynch Fitz-Ambrose.	D. Kirwan Fitz-Francis.	Geofry Browne.	T. Browne Fitz-Walter.
D. Browne Fitz-Thomas.	D. Browne Fitz-Nicholas.	Maurice Lynch, col.	W. Lynch Fitz-Andrew.
J. Kirwan Fitz-Francis.	Thomas Oge Nolan.	E. Browne Fitz-Dominick.	A. Bodkin F.-Dominick.
N. Bodkin Fitz-David.	Martin D'Arey.	Stephen Browne.	Marcus Bodkin Fitz-Alexander.
P. Browne Fitz-James.	F. Ffrench Fitz-George.	O. Browne Fitz-Martin.	Pat. Ffrench Fitz-Robert Begg.
T. Bodkin F.-Laurence.	D. Bodkin Fitz-Christopher.	J. Blake Fitz-Nicholas.	W. Blake Fitz-Geofrey.
J. Ffrench Fitz-Stephen.	P. Bodkin Fitz-Christopher.	Marcus Kirwan Fitz-Dominick.	Jas. Ffallon Fitz-Marten.
C. Bodkin Fitz-Thomas.	J. Bodkin Fitz-Edmond.	N. Blake Fitz-Anthony.	
R. Ffrench Fitz-Jasper.	A. Kirwan F.-Christopher.	J. Ffrench Fitz-Andrew.	
	S. Kirwan Fitz-Richard.		

An account of the foregoing names of each person was returned into the commissioners of the commonwealth for the affairs of Ireland, the 26th Novem'ber, 1652, by Sir Charles Coote.

EDWARD WATTS,
Town-Major of Galway.

NUMBER VI.

An Abstract of Forfeited Lands in the Liberties of Galway, 1657.

Denomination of Land.	Former proprietors.	Rent reserved for Present one year, from 1st tenants. May (leases dated 28th April), 1657.		
		£	s.	d.
Ballinbrit, etc., 1 cartron, 25 acres	Alderman D'Arcy	Ensigne John Peeters	4	0 0
Menlagh, etc., 1 qr., 50 do...	Sir Val. Blake	John Mathews	2	12 0
Do. do. ...	The same	Robert Mathews	2	12 0
Ballingarran, 1 cartron, 25 do	Martin French	Jarvis Heyns	5	5 0
Roscrum, etc., 3 cartrons, 50 do. ...	Anthony Lynch	Benjamin Veale	8	6 8
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	Col. Thomas Sadler	8	6 8
Do. 45 do. ...	The same	Capt. Walter Bird	4	6 8
Doghiskey, etc., 2 quarters...	Ald. Ml. Lynch	William Buckley	5	0 10
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	William Mander	5	0 10
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	Michael Lismore	5	0 10
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	William Heathcocke	5	0 10
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	George Borrowes	5	0 10
Do. 50 do. ...	The same	Hassett Wells	5	0 10
Moreagh, 1 quarter, 50 do....	Ald. John Blake	John Pope	11	14 6
Do. 50 do....	Ditto	William Jones	11	14 6
Ballibane, 50 do....	Margaret Lynch, alias Browne, and the heirs of Chr. Oge Lynch	Sargent Rd. Barnard	9	0 0
Do. parcels. ...	Ald. Ml. Lynch	John Groome	3	0 0
Do. do. ...	Walter Blake	William Radock	12	0 0
Do. do. ...	Mary Lynch	Edward Dodwall	1	10 0
Do. do. ...	Thomas Lynch	Julian Browne	1	0 0
Do. do. ...	Dominick Browne	Ensigne Bodell	2	10 0
Do. do. ...	Sir Thomas Blake	William Buckly	0	2 0
Do. do. ...	The same	Richard Bernard	4	0 0
Do. do. ...	The same	John Peeters	4	0 0
Do. do. ...	Sir Walter Blake	Edward Stubbers	2	10 0
One park, do. ...	Patrick Blake	George Burwish	0	8 0
Three parcels of land ...	Oliver Martin, Francis Skerrett & Sir Dominick Browne	Ruber. Estropp	1	10 0
North-roo parcels ...	Martin Browne	William Buckly	2	10 0
Plott of ground and garden...	John Browne	Captain Walter Bird	0	13 4
House and garden ...	Ald. Ml. Lynch	Richard Dawes	2	13 4
Ditto ...	The same	Henry Hutchinson	1	16 0
ments and parcels ...	The same	Paule Dodd	3	0 0
Ditto ...	Martin Skerrett & Ns. Browne	Walter Bird	2	8 3
Fishings of the river ...	James D'Arcy	Ruben Estropp	5	0 0
Tenements and millstead ...	Sir Robt. Lynch & Wm. Morrish	Thomas Marshall	5	5 0
Mill in the liberties ...	Sir Dom. Browne	John Camell	15	0 0
Several plotts ...	Sir Oliver French	Paule Dodd	2	1 6
Parcels in the liberties (ex- cepting the corporation's interest)	Nicholas Blake	William Buckly	2	10 0

Denomination of Lands.	Former proprietors.	Present tenants	Rent reserved for one year, from 1st May (leases dated 28th April), 1627.
			£ s. d.
Several parcels ...	Michael Lynch	James Pierse	1 5 0
Parcels of land ...	Thomas Lynch	Julian Browne & Thos. Lynch Fitz-Ambrose	1 5 0
Ditto ...	Andrew Blake	Ensign Joseph Hoyle	3 15 0
Ditto ...	John French	Thomas Staunton	1 10 6
Two houses and gardens ...	Edmond Bodkin	Ensign Joseph Hoyle	3 0 0
Parcels of land ...	Dominick Martin	Samuel Newton	3 0 0
Houses and gardens ...	John Lynch Fitz-Nicholas	Jarvis Hinds	1 5 0
Tenements and houses in the middle-roe	Sir Walter Blake	Willham Speede	4 11 7
House in the liberties ...	Teige Heynes	John Pope	1 10 0
A plott of ground ...	Thomas Kirovan	Willham Speede	0 1 0
The lands of Newcastle ...	Jas. Lynch Fitz-Stephen	Paule Dodd, mayor. Of these lands, Mr. Dodd claims $\frac{2}{3}$ parts in fee-simple, and for the state's interest is to pay	1 10 0
The salmon fishing and all other fishings of the river of Gallway, excepting $\frac{2}{3}$ parts of the same, formerly belonging to Aldm. James D'Arcy, which Mr. Dodd claimeth in fee simple	James D'Arcy	P. Dodd, for the state's interest, is to pay	0 10 0
Gortnelicky, 100 acres ...	Ed. Kirrovan and others	Robert Clarke	0 15 0
Plotts and Gardens in the west liberties (excepting the corp. interest)	Anthony Lynch	Ensign Bodwell	3 15 0
Parcels of ground ...	Sir Walter Blake	Ruben Estropp	1 10 0
Several parcels ...	Geoffry Ffont	Teige Mahony	2 5 0
Ditto ...	Patrick Martin	Thomas Semper	1 0 0
Ditto ...	Richard Kirrovan	Jarvis Hinds	1 11 0
Ditto ...	Elizabeth Lynch	John May	4 2 0
Lands of Dangan and Letra, $3\frac{1}{2}$ cartrons, $87\frac{1}{2}$ acres	James Oge Lynch	Samuel Newton	4 0 0
Renmore, Gortstephen, Muruagh and Ensight Staunton's park	Ald. M. Lynch and John Blake	Col. T. Sadler, on behalf of the now troope of Gallway, for their grazing	14 0 0
Jordan's Island ...	John Bermingham	Colonel Sadler	1 0 0
A house and garden in the suburbs		Francis Talmon, built by himself	3 0 0
		Total	£233 11 6

John Eyre, Commissioners appointed for settling
 Wm. Edwards, } the lands and houses, etc., in the counties
 Gab. Kinge, } of Galway and Mayo, belonging to his
 James Cuffe, } highness and the commonwealth.

NUMBER VII.

The parliament of England having ordained, that in consequence of the losses sustained by the inhabitants of Gloucester during the siege of that city by the royal forces, such part of the forfeited lands, etc., in Ireland as should be valued at 10,000*l* should be conveyed unto Anthony Edwards and Thomas Whitcombe, in trust for said inhabitants:—afterwards, in an additional act passed in

the parliament, begun and holden at Westminster, the 17th September, 1656, ordered that the lord deputy and council of Ireland should set out to said trustees, out of the forfeited lands in the province of Connaught and county of Clare, and the forfeited houses in the city of Galway and liberties thereof, so much, as at the rate of six years' purchase, should amount to that sum.

A Particular or Survey of the Lands set out in pursuance of said Additional Act,
in the County of the Town of Galway.

	Pro-	Un- pro- fit- able		Pro-	Un- pro- fit- able
1. The castle and house of Terrilan, with 1½ quarter of land	130	300	8. Part of the lands of Boorbeg, near the town wall of Galway, formerly belonging to Alderman James D'Arcy and others (besides Master Smyth's proportion)	12	0
2. The castle and one quarter of land of Castlegare... ..	95	42	9. The quarter of land of Roscam contains, in the whole, 343 acres of profitable land, whereof 169 acres being surveyed for Master Smyth, and 45 acres for Mr. Whalley, there remains... ..	129	70
3. The castle and three cartrons of land of Ballindoola, and the two cartrons of Coolkyne	148	307			
4. The two cartrons of Poulgare and Corveagh	46	38			
5. The quarter of land of Corrowgarraue... ..	37	112			
6. The cartron of land of Gortachally	29	122			
7. One quarter in the two quarters of Killeen... ..	137½	52½			
				Acre	763½ 1043½
			Registered in the office of the Surveyor-General of lands in Ireland, 9th February, 1657.		

A Schedule containing a Survey and Valuation of soe Many of the Houses in the Towne of Galway, with the Gardens, Orchards and Edifices, and their Appurtenances, as are set out pursuant to said Additional Act.

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
A thatched house ...	John Blake Fitz- Robert	—	£ s. d. 0 8 0
Do. ...	Thomas Browne	Captain Bird	1 5 0
A dwelling-house, covered with slate, three stories, with a yard	Stephen Browne	Thos. Williams	7 10 0
Ditto, two stories—a thatched house backward, one story high, with a back-side	Thomas Nolan	George Duffett	12 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
			£ s. d.
Do. two stories with do. ...	Do.	Thomas Marshell	11 10 0
Two do. three stories, with do.	John Martin Fitz- Geffery	Blanerhassett Wells	13 0 0
Do. with back-house slated, one story	Do.	George Burwast	16 0 0
Do. three stories—a back- house slated, three stories, and a yard	Mathew Martyn	Thomas Symper	14 0 0
A dwelling-house thatched, one story	Jas. Lynch Fitz- Marcus	Jarvis Hines	1 15 0
A dwelling-house thatched, one story	Nicholas Skerrett	Jarvis Hines	4 0 0
Do. slated, three stories, with a back-house and a back- side	Val. Oge French	Do.	11 0 0
A back-house, three stories ...	John Bodkin Fitz- Andrew	Do.	7 0 0
A ground plot of two houses...	Martin D'Arcy	Do.	1 15 0
Do. one house and a back- side, and a dwelling-house thatched, one story	S. Lynch Fitz- Nicholas	Col. Peter Stubbers	5 0 0
Do. one story and an half ...	Thos. alias Fras. Kirowan	Ensign Ed. Stubbers	5 10 0
Do. thatched, two stories ...	Do.	Col. Peter Stubbers	5 0 0
Do. slated, three stories, with a yard,—two do. one back- ward slated, three stories; and one two and an half stories	Thos. Lynch Fitz- Ambrose	Do.	32 0 0
A dwelling-house shingled, two stories, with a yard and garden	Francis Kirowan	Richard Pritchard	6 10 0
Do. slated, two and an half stories, with a back-house one story; and a yard and another house backwards, slated, three stories	Walter Athy	John May	21 10 0
Do. two and an half stories, and a yard; allsoe a dwell- ing-house back-ward, three stories	Patrick Martyne	Col. Wm. Edwards	14 0 0
Do. slated, three stories ...	Elizabeth Lynch, widow of Patk. Martyne	Geo. Scanderbeg- Bushell	10 0 0
Do. covered with boards, two stories	James French	Ensign John Bodwell	8 10 0
A dwelling-house, three sto- ries, slated, with a back side	O. Martyne Fitz- Richard alias Robt. French Fitz-John	Do.	20 0 0
Do. two and an half stories, with do.	D. Martyne Fitz- Thomas	Col. Wm. Edwards	17 10 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
			£ s. d.
Do. three stories, with a yard	Do.	William Buckley	14 0 0
Do. do. with a backside ...	Jas. French Fitz-Patrick	John Fennell	20 0 0
Do. two and an half stories, with do. and a thatched house backwards	Christop. Bodkin Fitz-Thomas	Lieut. James Pears	10 10 0
A dwelling-house thatched, one story	Do.	Christopher Skypor	1 5 0
Two do. ...	Anthony Fallon	George Laine	3 5 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, with a thatched shed backwards, a back-side and garden	John French	John Scott	19 0 0
Do. two stories ...	Richard Barrett	John Barrett	14 0 0
Do. slated, three stories, a dwelling-house backwards slated, two stories; do. one story, and a yard	Anthony French	Samuel Newton	20 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; a small house back- wards one story, and a yard	Jas. Bodkin Fitz-Jonake	Paule Dodd	13 0 0
Do. two stories; a house back- wards slated, one story; a backside and garden	Michael Lynch	George Duffett	16 0 0
Do. two stories; a house back- wards slated, three stories; and a back-side	Jasper French Fitz-John	Do.	17 0 0
Do. covered with boards, two stories, and a yard; and do. two stories, and a garden	Dominick Kerowan	William Munder	10 10 0
A house plot, with a back-side	Walter Lynch Fitz-George	—	2 0 0
A stone house slated, three stories, with do.	Dominick Roe French	—	11 0 0
Do. with do. ...	Jeffery French	—	15 0 0
A ground plot and walls of a house, one and an half story, with do.	Fran. Lynch Fitz-Thomas	—	4 0 0
Do. of two houses, with do....	M. Skerrett Fitz-Dominick	—	2 0 0
A house plot, with do. ...	Patrick Skerrett	—	1 0 0
Do. one story, with do. ...	Patrick D'Arcy	—	2 0 0
Do. ...	Nicholas Martin	—	0 15 0
Do. ...	Walter Browne	—	0 15 0
A stone-house, two stories, with a back-side; a house backwards slated, one story, with a house plot	Nich. Browne Fitz-Walter	—	13 0 0
Two ground plots and walls of two houses, one story each with a back-side	Sir Dominick Browne	—	6 10 0
A stone-house slated, three stories, yard and garden	Peter Lynch	—	13 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; a yard and a thatched house backward, one story	Jas. Lynch Fitz-Marcus	Benjamin Veale	£ s. d. 19 0 0
Do. do. ...	Anthony Browne	Richard Dawes	10 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, two and an half stories, with a back-side	James Skerrett Fitz-Marcus	William Buckley	8 0 0
Do. three stories, with a yard; two thatched houses backwards, one story each, a back-side and a garden	Francis Blake	Do.	23 0 0
A house plot and wall, one story; a back-side and a house backwards covered with boards, one story	Peter Browne Fitz-James	Do.	6 0 0
A dwelling-house shingled, two stories; do. one story; a dwelling-house backwards slated, three stories; a yard, a house plot and wall	John Lynch Fitz-Jeffery	William Hines	12 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; with a back-side and a castle slated, three and an half stories	William Blake	Wm. Woodward	21 0 0
Do. three stories ...	Anne Blake, widow of W. Blake Fitz-Arthur	Thos. Woolford	7 0 0
Do with a house plot and wall slated	Pierce Martyn	John Lattine	7 0 0
The new walls of a house thatched, two stories	Thomas Browne	William Buckley	2 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, two and an half stories	Christopher Blake	Mathew Browne	5 5 0
Do. three stories, and a yard; a house backwards slated, three stories; and another two stories	Jeffery Ffont	John Morgan	19 10 0
Do. three stories; a back-side, two thatched houses backwards one, and one and an half story	Do.	Samuel West	12 0 0
A dwelling-house three stories; a small house covered with boards, one story; and a ground plot of three houses	Dominick Lynch Fitz-John	Wm. Haycocke	14 15 0
A house plot and walls ...	Andrew D'Arcy	—	2 10 0
A waste house slated, three stories; a back-side, and a back-house slated, one and an half story	Francis Martynce	—	4 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
			£ s. d.
Do. thatched, one story ...	John Roynce	—	1 5 0
A back-house do. one and an half story	Michael Lynch	Thomas Sadler	3 10 0
A dwelling-house do. three stories	Thomas Browne Fitz-Walter	Robert Toate	8 0 0
Do. with a back-side ...	Marcus Lynch	Capt. Samuel Clarke	13 0 0
A dwelling-house backwards, do. slated, three stories	James French	Do.	6 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, with a back-side; and two houses backwards, one story each	Patrick Martyn	—	18 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; a yard and a thatched house backwards, one story	Do.	Richard Fraine	13 10 0
A dwelling-house, shingled, two stories	Thomas Gowna	Col. Thomas Sadler	4 0 0
A stone house backwards, slated, three stories; also a dwelling-house slated, three stories, with a yard and thatched house backwards, one story	Edmond Kerowan	Captain Bridges	38 10 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; a thatched house backwards, one story, and a backside	Martin French	Serjeant Bayly	14 0 0
Do. ...	Oliver Deane	John Peters	14 0 0
Do. ...	Do.	John Bingham	14 0 0
Do. two stories; a back-side and garden	Patrick D'Arcy	John Butler, school- master	16 0 0
Do. two stories, with a back- side	Nich. Bodkin Fitz-David	Lieut. Hy. Howard	17 0 0
Do. thatched, two stories, with a back-side; and two houses backwards, slated, and two and an half stories, each with yard	William Oge Martyne	Thomas Groves	32 0 0
A dwelling-house, slated, four stories	Wm. Lynch Fitz- Andrew	Lieut. Hy. Glegg	20 0 0
Do. ...	Edward Bodkin	Lt. Mathew Forth	11 0 0
Do. thatched, one story ...	Dominick Font	Richard Ranby	2 0 0
Do. ...	John Lynch Fitz- Jeffery	Lt. John Hoyle	3 10 0
Do. slated, three stories ...	Patrick French	Do.	6 10 0
Do. with a yard ...	Peter Skerret	Benjamin Veale	20 0 0
Do. with a garden; a thatched house one story, and a house backwards	Nich. Lynch Fitz- Stephen	Lt. Chas. Browne	15 0 0
Do. 3 stories; a backside and a plot of a house and wall	Patk. Oge French Fitz-George	Ensign Ed. Stubbers	13 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
			£ s. d.
Do. with do. and a thatched house backwards, one story	Edw. French Fitz- Patrick	Francis Foster	15 10 0
Do. thatched, two stories ...	Chr. French Fitz- Jeffery	Do.	5 10 0
Do. slated, three stories, with a back-side; and the walls of a house backwards, one story	Walter Blake Fitz-Andrew	Benjamin Bickiner	13 10 0
Do. three stories, with do....	Andrew Blake	Henry Waddington	23 0 0
A house plot, with stone walls, two stories, and a back-side	James French Fitz-Patrick	—	2 0 0
A house plot and walls ...	Robert French	—	1 0 0
A house plot ...	Patrick D'Arcy	—	1 10 0
A thatched house, two stories	Edw. Browne Fitz-Thomas	—	3 0 0
A ground plot, and walls of a house, one story, with a backside	Jeffery Blake	—	2 0 0
Ditto ...	Martin Blake Fitz-Andrew	—	2 10 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories	J. Browne Fitz- Dominick	Nicholas French	7 10 0
Do. with a house backwards, one story	Mary Martyn, alias Joyce	Richard Coxes	7 0 0
Do. with a thatched house backwards, one do.	W. Joyce or his Orphans	Do.	6 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, with a thatched house backwards, one story	John Butler	Francis Mynor	7 0 0
Do. two and an half stories; a back-side, and a dwelling- house backwards, slated, two and an half stories	P. Joyce, his Orphans, or Geo. Browne	James Lec	8 0 0
Do. backwards, slated, three and an half stories	Sir Dom. Browne	John Coine	8 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, two and an half stories, and a backside	A. Browne Fitz- Dominick	John Eyres	12 0 0
Do. three stories, with a yard and garden; a house back- wards, slated, two stories; and another three stories	Sir Dom. Browne	John Camell	27 10 0
Do. three stories, with a yard and garden	John Blake	Thomas Cuffe	22 0 0
Do. with a yard; a ground plot of a house; and do. backwards one story	J. Browne Fitz- Dominick	Nich. Oge French, Mrs. Vora and Robt Clarke	29 0 0
Do. with a garden; a thatched house backwards, one and an half story, and a back-side	P. Oge Lynch Fitz-Jonake	William Stanly	35 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
Do. with a yard; a dwelling-house backwards, slated, three and an half stories; do. two and an half stories, with do.	Edmond Skerrett	John Wine	£ s. d. 32 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; do. with a yard; a house backwards, slated, three stories; and a thatched house, do. one story	M. Lynch Fitz-Nicholas	Lt. Ed. Harryson	27 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, two stories	Chr. Lynch	—	9 0 0
Do. thatched, two stories, with the ground plot of a house	Domk. Lynch Fitz-John	Pierpoint Buckett	4 10 0
Do. two stories ...	Thomas Tarpie	John Latyne	5 10 0
Do. one story and do. two stories	Edmund Kerovan	William Wallum	6 15 0
A dwelling-house slated, backwards, two stories; a yard and a thatched house backwards, one story	Do.	Christopher Pigg	9 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, and a yard	Isidore Lynch	Samuel Newton	22 0 0
Do. with a dwelling-house, backwards, slated, three stories, and a yard	Domk. Bodkin Fitz-John	Col. Peter Stubbers	19 0 0
Do. with a yard; a house backwards slated, two stories; and two thatched houses, each one story	Marc. Lynch Fitz-Christopher or his heirs	John Dawgon	22 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, with the walls and ground-plot of a house backwards, one story	Patrick French Fitz-Robert	William Escott	7 0 0
Do. three stories ...	Patrick French Fitz-Stephen	Licut. Joseph Hoile	8 0 0
Do. with a yard; a thatched house two stories; and a house backwards, slated, two do.	Dominick Efont	Robert Mathewes	14 0 0
Do. with a yard, and a slated house backwards, two stories	Edmond Oge Bodkin	John Davis	15 10 0
A dwelling-house slated, two stories	Do.	Francis Smyth	7 0 0
Do. three stories ...	Wm. Lynch Fitz-Andrew	George Lambe	8 0 0

Houses, etc.	Proprietors in 1640, Irish Papists.	Proprietors in 1657, Eng. Protestants.	Yearly value, if to be let for years.
			£ s. d.
Do. with a yard, and two thatched houses backwards, one story each	P. Browne Fitz- Anthony	John Vaughan	11 10 0
A dwelling-house thatched, one story, with a back-side	Nich. Blake Fitz- Anthony	William Pointer	2 10 0
Do. ...	Nicholas Blake	John Bate	3 0 0
Do. slated, one and an half story	Do.	John Bosse	5 0 0
Do. thatched, two stories ...	James Lynch	Thomas Kenewicke	3 10 0
A stone-house slated, three stories	Edmond Bodkin	—	5 0 0
A waste house thatched, one story	Peter Browne Fitz-James	—	2 0 0
A waste house slated, three stories, a backside, a ground-plot of a house, and a garden	Christop. French	—	9 5 0
A thatched house backwards, one story, and a ground plot of a house	Marc. Browne Fitz-Walter	—	2 0 0
The walls of a house, two stories	Edward Kerowan	—	8 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories; a yard, and a house backwards, slated, one story	Oliver Kerowan	Ensign Peter Foxwell	18 0 0
Several house plots and a garden with stone walls	Thos. Lynch Fitz- Marcus	Col. Thos. Sadler	4 0 0
A dwelling-house slated, three stories, a yard and a garden	Marcus Kerowan	John Strafford	15 0 0
A dwelling-house backwards, do. two and an half stories; a backside, and a thatched house backwards, one story	Thomas Rea Kerowan	Col. Thos. Sadler	8 0 0
Do. three stories, with a back- side; and a thatched house, one story	Dr. Thos. Lynch	John Murrta	13 0 0

Memorandum, that all the above men-
tioned premises are scituate, lying, and
being, in Flud-street, Key-street, Middle-
street, Little Gate-street, south side of
High-street, and the lanes and parts thereunto adjoining, in the towne of
Gallway aforesaid, amounting in the
whole to £1518 18s. per annum, at six
years purchase, satisfies the sum of
£9110 8s.

VINCENT GODKIN,
Surveyor-General.

Extracted from Cromwell's Roll, No. 4,
Rolls Office.

15th Feb. 1657.

NUMBER VIII.

Charter of Charles II. to the Corporation of Galway.

CHARLES the Second, by the Grace of GOD, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, etc. To All whom these presents shall come, greeting.—WHEREAS by letters under our royall signett and signe manual, bearing date, at our court at Whitehall, the sixteenth day of August, which was in the three and twentyeth ycare of our reygne, directed to our right trusty and well beloved counsellor, John lord Berkely, our lieutenant-generall and generall governour of our said kingdome of Ireland, and to the chief governor or governors there, for the tyme being, Wee did signifye our royall will and pleasure therein, that, WHEREAS many of the charters of the severall citties and townes, formerly corporate in our said kingdome of Ireland, have been, by reason of the severall miscarriages and misdemeanors of the said citys and townes, during the tyme of the late horrid rebellion in that our kingdome, forfeited unto us, and other of the said corporations are dissolved, or otherwise determined, so that wee may justly reseize all the liberties and franchises that have been by any of our royall ancestors granted to the said corporations, if wee would take the full and utmost advantage that wee legally might against them. And that, WHEREAS wee were graciously pleased, for the encouraegment of trade in our said kingdome of Ireland, to extend our favour to such of the said corporations as our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our kingdome of Ireland shall judge best meritting the same, and to grant unto them new charters, with such lands and other priviledges, liberties and advantages formerly belonging unto them, as should appear unto our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of Ireland to be fitt and reasonable to bee granted unto them: Wee did, therefore, by our said letters, declare our royal will and pleasure, and did thereby give unto our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland, full power and authority to make due inspection into the severall charters formerly granted by any of our royall ancestors to the severall

citties and townes corporate in our said kingdome of Ireland; and, upon humble suit made unto our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland by the members of the said severall citties and townes, to cause new charters, by the advice of our learned council in that our kingdome, or some of them, to be past unto the said citties and townes formerly corporate, respectively, under the great seale of our said kingdome of Ireland, in such manner as our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland shall think fitt, and thereby to grant unto the said citties and townes, formerly corporate, respectively, such of the lands, tenements and hereditaments formerly belonging unto them; and also such liberties, franchises, priviledges and advantages formerly granted unto or enjoyed by them, with such restrictions, limitations, and exceptions, as our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland should think fitt and most conducing to our service, and the better support of the said corporations.

AND WHEREAS the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalities, of our said town and county of our town of Gallway, taking notice of our princely grace and favor intended to our citys and townes corporate in our realme of Ireland, by our said letters of the 16th day of August, in the three and twentyeth ycare of our reygne, have humbly petitioned our right trusty and right well beloved cousin and counsellor, Arthur, earle of Essex, our lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland, that wee would be graciously pleased to grant unto them a new charter, and thereby incorporate them and their successors to be one body corporate and politique within our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, in succession, for ever; and to have and enjoy such lands, tenements and hereditaments, royalties, franchises, liberties and priviledges, as our said lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland should think fitt for the encouragement of trade and the advantage of our service there; and have alsoe since made it their humble and earnest desire, that wee would be graciously pleased to make some provision, in our said new charter, for securing the

disbursements and charges which Theodorus Russell, esq. their present mayor, hath been att in laying out severall great sumes of money to redeeme them from their lost condition, by purchasing in, from Elizabeth Hamilton, widow and relict of James Hamilton, esqre. lately deceased, the estate, right, tytle and interest, in and unto such charter, markett and petty duties formerly belonging unto the said corporation, which were forfeited unto, and granted by us unto the said Elizabeth, by letters patents under our great seale of Ireland, bearing date the 5th day of December, in the five and twentyeth yeare of our reigne, and for a further compensation of his great paines and favor therein shewed unto them. And whereas wee were graciously pleased, for the better improving of the said towne, and settling of trade and manufacture therein, to condescend to the humble desires of the said petitioners.

NOW KNOW YEE, that wee of our especiall grace, certayne knowledge and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent of our right trusty and right well beloved cousin and counsellor, Arthure, earle of Essex, our lieutenant-generall and generall-governor of our said kingdome of Ireland, and according to the tenor of our said letters under our royall signett and signe manuall, bearing date, at our court att Whitehall, the 16th day of August, in the three and twentyeth yeare of our reigne, and enrolled in the rolls of our high court of chancery, in our said kingdome of Ireland, have willed, declared, ordeyned, constituted and granted, and by these presents doe will declare, ordeyne, constitute and grant, that our said towne of Gallway, and all and singular castles, houses, messuages, tofts, mills, edifices, structures, curtillages, gardens, waste grounds, lands, tenements and hereditaments, situate, lying and being within the town of Gallway, shall be at all tymes hereafter, one entire and free burrough of itselfe, by the name of the towne and burrough of Gallway, and shall from henceforth be called, taken and knowne by the name of the towne and burrough of Galway; and all and singular the premises into one entire burrough of itself, by the name of the towne and burrough of Gallway, wee doe erect, constitute, make and ordaine, by these presents. AND FURTHER, of our especiall grace, certayne knowledge and

meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee have willed, ordeyned and constituted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, wee doe will, ordeyne and constitute, that the said towne of Gallway, and all castles, messuages, waters, rivers, lands, tenements, and other hereditaments whatsoever, lying and being within the space of two miles from every parte of the saide towne of Gallway in a direct lyne, from henceforth be one entire county of itselfe, corporate in deed and name; and shalbe for ever distinct and altogether separate from the county of Gallway; and that the saide county of the towne, soe corporate, and distinct and separate from the said county of Gallway, shall for ever hereafter be called, taken and knowne to be the county of the towne of Gallway. PROVIDED alwise, nevertheless, and our will and pleasure is, and wee doe hereby declare, institute, ordeyne and appoint, that our justices of assize and gaol delivery, and our justices of the peace in their sessions for business, touching the county of Gallway at large, and also the sheriff of the county of Gallway at large, for the time being, in holding his tournes, or other his courts, and all other commissioners of enquiry, and other officers of us, our heirs and successors, and every of them who have heretofore held their courts within the county of Gallway at large, shall and may have free ingresse, egress and regresse into the town of Gallway, and there hold their sessions for all matters and things whatsoever which shall or may happen to be done, or arise without the said county of the towne of Gallway, and within the county of Gallway at large, in such place as they may think fitt, and in as ample manner to all intents and purposes, as they did heretofore hold the same in St. Francis'-abbey, or any parte of the county of Gallway at large, or as they might hold the same in case the said towne of Gallway, and precinct of same, were not hereby made an entire county of itselfe, but remained parte of the said county of Gallway at large; any thing in these our letters patents conteyned to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. AND FURTHER of our especiall grace, certeyne knowledge, and meere motion, by and with the advice aforesaid, wee have given and granted and by these

presents, for us, our heires and successors, wee doe give and grant, that in the said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, there shalbe for ever hereafter one new body corporate and politique in deed and name, consisting of one mayor, two sheriffs, and free burgesses and commonaltie of the towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and them, the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, and their successors, into one body corporate and politique, for ever to endure, wee doe by these presents fully make, create, establish and unite; and that the said body corporat shall for ever be called and knowne by the name of the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway; and that by the same name they and their successors shall have perpetual succession, and shalbe able and capable in law to have, purchase, receive and possess lands, tenements, liberties, priviledges, jurisdictions, franchises and hereditaments whatsoever, of what kinde or nature soever, unto them and their successors, in fee or perpetuity, and alsoe goods and chattels, and all other things whatsoever, of what nature or kinde so ever; and also to give, grant, demise and assigne lands, tenements and hereditaments, goods and chattels; and to doe and execute all other matters and things by the name aforesaid, as any other person, natural or body politique, lawfully could or might doe in any wise: AND LIKEWISE that they and their successors, by the name of the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the towne and county of the towne of Gallway, may pleade and be implaeded, answere and be answered, before us, our heires and successors, and before any of the justices, commissioners and judges, as well ecclesiastical as secular, of us, our heires and successors, or elsewhere wheresoever, of and in all and all manner of actions, real, personal, or mixt, suites, quarrells and demands whatsoever, against them, or by them, to be prosecuted.

AND FURTHER of our like especiall grace, certayne knowledge, and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, wee doe give

and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, and their successors, that the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, shall and may have full power and authority to choose, send and returne, in as full and effectuell manner, to all intents and purposes, as formerly they did, or at any time heretofore have done, two discreete and fitt persons to serve and attend in every parliament hereafter to be held in our said kingdome of Ireland; and that the said persons soe elected, sent and returned, shall have full power and authority to treat and consult upon such things and matters as shalbe to them there propounded or declared, and thereupon freely give their votes and sufferages, and to doe and execute all other things whatsoever, as fully and freely as any other burgesse of any ancient burrough in our said realme of Ireland, or in our said realme of England, in the parliament there, are wont to doe and execute. And to the intent that in tyme to come it may appeare that this new charter was granetd unto honest and discreete men, wee doe, by these presents, make, nominate and constitute Theodorus Russell, esqre. to be the first and moderne mayor of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway; to continue in the said office untill the feast of St. Michael the archangell, which shalbe in the year of our Lord 1678: and we doe likewise, by these presents, make, nominate and constitute John Clarke and Richard Browne to be the first and modern sheriffs of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway; to continue in the said office untill the feast of St. Michael the archangell, which shall be in the year of our Lord God 1678: and likewise wee doe, by these presents, make, nominate and constitute Sir Oliver St. George, baronet, Sir James Cuff and Sir Thomas Newcomen, knights, Vere Essex Cromwell, esqre. Richard Coote, esqre. Sir Henry Waddington, knight, Charles Holcroft, esqre. John Eyre, Edward Eyre, John Mayart, and William Hamilton, esqres. George Hull, gent. and George Lessone, esqre. and such others as the mayor and sheriffs and the major parte of the free burgesses, for the tyme being, shall choose to be the first and moderne

free burgesses of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, to continue in the said office of free burgesses during their respective lives, unless they shall, in the meane tyme, for their misbehaviour, or for any other reasonable cause, be removed from the said office or offices: and alsoe all such inhabitants of the said towne, and such, and soe many others, as the said mayor, sheriffs and free burgesses of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, for the tyme being, shall admitt into the freedom of the said towne, wee doe, by these presents, make, constitute and ordeyne to be of the commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway. **AND FURTHER** wee doe by these presents make, nominate and constitute William Sprigg, esqre. to be the recorder of the said towne of Gallway, and to continue in the said office untill the said feast of St. Michael the archangell, which shall be in the said yeare 1678; and Jerome Russell, gent. to be towne-clerke of our said towne of Gallway, and likewise to continue in the said office untill the said feast of St. Michael the archangell, in the said year 1678.

AND FURTHER wee will that the said Theodorus Russell, whome wee have by these presents constituted mayor of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and the said William Sprigg, whome wee have constituted recorder of the said towne, shall, within one moneth after the date of these our letters patents, come before Sir Henry Waddington, knight, Charles Holcroft, esqre. now high sheriff of the said county of Gallway, and John Eyre, esqre. or any two of them, and in due manner take the oathe of supremacie established by act of parliament, secundo Elizabethæ, in our said kingdome of Ireland, and the oathe of allegiance, and also this ensuing oath, viz.: "I, A.B., doe declare and believe, that it is not lawful, upon any pretence whatsoever, to take up armes against the king, and that I doe abhor that treayterous possition of taking armes by his authority against his person,, or against those that are commissioned by him.—So help me God."—and shall likewise respectively take the severall oathes heretofore usually taken for the due execution of the severall offices of mayor and recorder of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway; and that the said

John Clarke and Richard Browne, whome wee have by these presents constituted sheriffs of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors, and the said Jerome Russell, whome wee have constituted towne-clerke of our towne of Gallway, and his successors; and the said Sir Oliver St. George, Sir James Cuffe, Sir Thomas Newcomen, Vere Essex Cromwell, Richard Coote, Sir Henry Waddington, Charles Holcroft, John Eyre, Edward Eyre, John Mayart, William Hamilton, George Hull, and George Leesone, whome wee have made present free burgesses of the said towne, as alsoe their successors in the place and places of free burgesses, att all tymes to come, before they be admitted to execute their respective offices, places, or employments; and likewise all and every such person and persons as shall be of the common councill of the said towne and burrough, as alsoe their successors in the place of common councill-men, at all tymes to come, before they be admitted into their respective offices, places, or employments, shall, severally and respectively, take as well the severall oathes before particularly mentioned, as alsoe the oathes heretofore usually taken, for the due execution of their severall offices, places, or employments; the said severall oathes to be administered by the mayor and recorder, or by the mayor and two of the burgesses of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, for the tyme being, whome wee doe by these presents authorize and require to administer the same, in the Tholsell, or any other convenient place within the said towne. **AND** it is our further will and pleasure, that the said office and offices of mayor, recorder, sheriffe and towne-clerke, of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, be for ever hereafter elective.

AND wee doe, by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne of Gallway, and their successors, that the said mayor, sheriffs and common-councill of the said towne, for the tyme being, yearely, for ever, at the feast of St. Peeter, ad Vincula, commonly called lammas-day, from and after the five and twentyeth day of March next ensuing, shall and may assemble themselves in the Tholsell of the said towne, or any other convenient place within the

said towne of Gallway, and, being soe assembled, may (or the greater parte of them) before they departe thence, may choose one of the discreetest free burgesses of the said towne to the office of mayor of the said towne, who, being presented, approved and sworn in manner and form as hereafter is expressed, may holde, exercise and enjoy the same for one whole yeare, from the feast of St. Michael the archangell then next following, and untill another of the said burgesses shalbe duly elected, presented, approved and sworn into the said office, in manner as hereafter as setforth; and may alsoe then and there elect some discrete person, learned in the lawes, to bee recorder of the said towne, as alsoe some discrete person to be towne-clerke of the said towne, who, being respectively presented, approved and sworn, in manner and forme as hereafter is expressed, may hold, exercise and enjoy the same for one whole yeare, from the feast of St. Michael the archangell then next following, and untill two others shalbe duly elected, presented, approved and sworn into the said offices respectively in manner as hereafter setforth. And wee doe further ordeyne and appoint, that it shall and may be lawful for the mayor and recorder of the said towne, for the tyme being, respectively, in case of sickness, or any urgent or important occasions of their owne, to be absent from the said towne, to appoint their respective deputyes during such tyme of his and their sickness or absence from the said towne, who, takeing the severall oathes herein formerly appointed to be taken by the mayor and recorder of the said corporation respectively, shall and may execute the place and office of deputy mayor and deputy recorder of the said corporation in all things, dureing the tyme of such mayor and recorder's sickness or absence, respectively, as fully and amply, to all intents and purposes, as such sick or absent mayor or recorder might have done if he and they were well and personally present; such deputy mayor and deputy recorder, respectively, first takeing all the severall oathes formerly mentioned to bee taken by the mayor and recorder of the said towne, before the sheriffs of the said towne for the tyme being, and any three or more of the free burgesses of the said towne, whome wee doe hereby fully authorize and require to administer the same unto them respectively on the Holy Evangelists. AND our will and pleasure is, that the mayor and recorder of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their deputies, for the tyme being, respectively, shalbe justices of the peace for the county of Gallway att large, dureing their continuance in their respective offices. AND FURTHER of our more abundant grace, certeyne knowledge and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee will, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the said towne of Gallway, and their successors, that when and so often as it shall happen that the mayor of the saide towne of Gallway, for the tyme being, shall dye, or the said office shall become voyd within the compasse of one yeare after he shall be elected, presented, approved and sworn, as aforesaid, that then, and in such case, it shall and may bee lawfull to and for the sheriffs, free burgesses and common councill of the said towne; and their successors, within fifteen dayes after such death or vacancie, to choose some other fitt person, out of the number of the free burgesses, to the office of mayor of the said towneff and that such person, being soe elected and chosen, and takeing the severall oathes before mentioned, before the sheriffs, and any seven or more of the free burgesses of the said towne for the tyme being, whome wee doe hereby authorize and require to administer the same on the Holy Evangelists, shall and may execute the said office of mayor of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, untill the feast of St. Michael the archangell next following such new election. AND FURTHER of our more abundant grace, certeyne knowledge and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, thatt the said mayor, sheriffs and common-councill, and their successors for ever, shall have full power and authority, from tyme to tyme, every year, at the feast of lammes, to choose and nominate two honest and discrete free burgesses of the said towne to be

sheriffs of the county of the towne of Gallway aforesaid, to continue for one whole yeare from the feast of St. Michael the archangell then next following such election inclusive; and that such persons soe elected, presented, approved and sworn, in manner as hereafter is settforth, may take upon them the execution of the said office of sheriffe, and may hold, execute and enjoy the said office of sheriffe of the said county of the towne of Gallway for one whole yeare, from the feast of St. Michael the archangell then next following, and untill others shalbe elected, presented, approved and sworn into the said office, in manner as hereafter is expressed; and that such sheriffs of the county of the said towne of Gallway shall and may have and exercise all and all manner of jurisdictions, powers, authorities, liberties, and other things whatsoever to the said office of sheriffe belonging or apperteyning, within the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and the lymits, meares and bounds of the same, as other sheriffs of us, our heires and successors, within our said kingdome of Ireland, have or ought to have within their baylywicks. And that wee, our heires and successors, from tyme to tyme, for ever hereafter, shall and will direct, and cause to be made, to the sheriffs of the said county of the towne of Gallway for the tyme being, all and singular writts, bills, precepts, warrants, summons, attachments, distresses, estreats and mandates, of us, our heirs and successors, and the summons, attachments and distresses of the Exchequer of us, our heires and successors, and other the courts of us, our heires and successors, arising for any matter or thing within the said towne or county of the towne of Gallway, or within the precincts or lymits of the same, for the future, which ought to be directed to, and executed by, the sheriffe of the county of Gallway, if the towne of Gallway and the precincts of the same were not made an entire county of itselfe, soe that noe other sheriffe in our said realme of Ireland, or bayliffe, or serjeant of any sheriffe in our said realme of Ireland, except the sheriffs of us, our heires and successors, of the said county of the towne of Gallway, and their bayliffes, ministers or servants, shall, for the future, enter into the said towne, or precincts of the same, (except as before is excepted,) to exercise or execute any thing that belongs to the office of sheriffe, nor shall any way intermeddle therein. AND wee doe hereby further will, institute and ordeyne, and our royal will and pleasure is, that upon all elections to bee hereafter made, after the five and twentyeth day of March next, of any person or persons to serve in any of the offices of mayor, sheriffs, recorder, or towne-clerke, of the said corporation, the names of the persons soe elected to serve in the said severall offices shalbe by the said corporation forthwith presented to our lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors, and the privy councill of our said kingdome of Ireland, to be approved of by them; and that the said persons soe elected for any the said offices shalbe for ever hereafter incapable of serveing in the said severall offices, or any of them, untill they shalbe respectively approved of by the lord lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors, and privy councill of our said kingdome of Ireland, by order under their hand; and in case the persons, or any of them, whose names shall be so presented to our lieutenant, or other our chiefe governor or governors, and councill of our said kingdome of Ireland, shall not be soe approved of within tenn dayes after their names shall be so presented, then, and in such case, the said corporation shall, from tyme to tyme, proceed to a new election of fitt persons for the said respective offices, for which the persons soe presented shall not be soe approved of, and shall in like manner present their names to the said lieutenant, or other chiefe governor or governors, and councill of our said kingdome of Ireland, untill they shall have chosen such persons for the said respective offices as shall be soe approved of, as aforesaid: PROVIDED alwise, that this shall not extend to the election of any person that shall be elected in the place of any of the said officers annually chosen, who shall dye within the yeare of their execution of the said respective offices, or within one moneth before they are to enter upon the execution thereof. AND our further will and pleasure is, that noe person shall be hereafter chosen warden of the said towne of Gallway, but such person as shall be nominated to the said office by our lieutenant, or other chiefe governor or goevrnors of our said kingdome of Ireland, for the tyme being. AND our further will and pleasure is, and wee doe

alsoe hereby declare and ordeyne, that noe person or persons, that shall hereafter be elected either mayor, recorder, sheriffe, alderman, towne-clerke, free burghess, or one of the common councill, within the said towne or corporation, or master or wardens of any corporation, guild or fraternity, within the said towne or corporation, shalbe capable of holding and enjoying, or executeing any of the said offices, places or employments, untill he or they shall have taken the oath of supremacie, established by act of parliament, secundo Elizabethæ, in this kingdome, and the oath of alleagiance, besides the oaths usually taken upon the admission of any persons in the said respective offices or employments, and alsoe this ensuing oath, viz.: "I, A.B. doe declare and believe, that it is not lawfull, upon any pretence whatsoever, to take armes against the king, and that I do abhor that trayterous position of takeing armes, by his authority, against his person, or against those that are commissioned by him.—So help me God.—" the said oathes to be taken before such person or persons as shall admitt them to the said severall offices, places and imployments, who are hereby impowered, authorised, and required to administer to them the said oathes; and upon any such person or persons refusall to take the said oathes the election of such person or persons into any of the said offices, places and imployments, is hereby declared to be absolutely null and voyd, (such persons onely excepted with whose takeing the said oath of supremacie, our lieutenant or other chiefe governor or governors of our said kingdome of Ireland for the tyme being, for some particular reasons, shall thinke fitt, by writeing under his or their hand, by name, to dispence).

AND for the avoydeing of such tumults and disorders wherewith popular elections of magistrates and other officers are often attended, wee do hereby further order and direct that, for ever hereafter, the mayor, sheriffs, recorder, towne-clerke, and all other officers of the said towne of Gallway, shalbe elected and chosen onely by the mayor, sheriffs and common councill of the said towne, or the greater number of the votes of such of the common councill of the said towne as shalbe present on the dayes whereon such elections are or ought, to be usually made; and that noe freeman of the said towne, or other

person, who shall not be of the common councill of the said towne, shall att any tyme hereafter have any vote in the election of any mayor, sheriffes, recorder, towne-clerke, or other officers, in the said towne of Gallway; and that noe matter or thing, in any wise relatenig to the affaires of the said towne, shalbe hereafter propounded or debated in the Tholsell, or generall assembly of the said towne, untill the same shall have first passed the common councill of the said towne; and that the persons offending against this rule shall be disfranchised by the mayor and common councill of the said otwne; any law, usuage or custome of the said towne to the contrary in any wise wotwithstanding. AND FURTHER we will and ordeyne, and the said mayor, sheriffs, burghesses and commonaltie, for themselves and their successors, doe accordingly covenant and grant to and with us, our heires and successors, that all foreigners, strangers and aliens, as well as other protestants, who are or shalbe merchants, traders, artizans, artificers, seamen, or otherwise skilled and exercised in any mystery, craft, or trade, in the working or making any manufacture, or in the art of naviagtion, who are at present resideing and inhabitting within the said towne of Gallway, or who shall at any tyme hereafter come into the said towne of Gallway, with intent and resolution there to inhabit, reside and dwell, shall, upon his or their reasonable suite or request made, and upon payment down of twenty shillings, by way of fine, unto the chiefe magistrate or magistrates and common councill, or other persons authorized to admit and make freemen of the said town of Gallway, bee admitted a freeman of our said towne of Gallway; and if he or they shall desire it of all or any guild, brotherhood, society or fellowship, of any trade, craft or misterie within the same, during his or their residence for the most parte, and his and their families constant inhabiting within our said towne of Gallway, and noe longer, and shall have, exercise and enjoy all priviledges and immunities of trading, working, buying and selling, in as large and ample manner as any freeman of the said towne of Gallway might have exercised and enjoyed by virtue of his or their freedome; and that every such person or persons who shall be admitted to be free, as aforesaid, shall from henceforth be

deemed, esteemed and taken, and be a freeman or member of our said towne denizon and denizons, within this kingdome; any law, statute, charter, usage or custome of this kingdome, or of any cittie, walled towne, or corporation of the same, to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. Provided alwise, that all such strangers, artificers; and others, to be admitted freemen as aforesaid, shall take the oath of alleagiance, and alsoe such other oathes as are accustomedly taken by all or any freeman, or members of the said towne of Gallway, or by all or any members of any such guild or brotherhood, society or fellowship, of the trade, craft, or other mistery, which he or they shall occupy or exercise, in case he or they shall desire to be incorporate into any such guild, brotherhood, society, or fellowship, aforesaid; and shall pay all such and like charges as all freemen, or subjects of the like trade, craft or misterie shall or doe use to pay, and noe other nor more. And if the chiefe magistrate or magistrates, or other persons, authorised as aforesaid, of the said towne of Gallway, or any master, warden or other governor of any brotherhood, society, or fellowship, or any trade, craft or mistery within the said towne of Gallway, shall refuse to admitt any such stranger, being a merchant, trader, artificer, artizan, workman or seaman, residing or coming into our said kingdome of Ireland, with intent, as aforesaid, to be a freeman of our said towne Gallway, or to be a brother or member of any brotherhood, society or fellowship within the same, every such chiefe magistrate or magistrates, masters, wardens or other governors, respectively, shall, upon complainte and due prooffe made of such refusall before our lieutenant, or other chiefe governor or governors and counsell of our said kingdome of Ireland, be by their order disfranchised, and from thenceforth incapable (without their lycence) of being a freeman or member of the said towne; and every such stranger, being a merchant, trader, artificer, artizan, workman or seaman, upon tender by him made of twenty shillings, (by way of fyne, as aforesaid, and takeing the oath of alleagiance before any justice of the peace of the county of Gallway, who is hereby authorized and appointed to administer the said oath), shall thereupon by virtue hereof be deemed, reputed and taken, to all intents and purposes, to be a freeman or member of our said towne of Gallway, and of the brotherhood, society or fellowship of any trade, craft, or mistery where he or they shalbe denyed admission as aforesaid, and from thenceforth have, exercise and enjoy the libertie and priviledge of tradeing, working, buying or selling of any commodities whatsoever, in as large and ample manner as if he had been admitted a freeman of our said county of Gallway, a brother or member of such brotherhood, society or fellowship of any trade, craft or mistery within the same, takeing the usuall oathes of such freemen, brothers and members, which oathes any one justice of peace of our said county of Gallway is by these presents impowered to administer, and paying all such charges, as aforesaid; any law, custome, charter or usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And in case any person or persons shall give any interruption or disturbance to any such stranger, being a merchant, trader, artificer, artizan, workman, or seaman, as aforesaid, to the hindering of him in his trading, workeing, buying or selling, as aforesaid, contrary to the intent and meaning of these presents, all and every such person or persons soe offending shall, upon like complaint and prooffe made of his or their offence therein before our lieutenant, or other chiefe governor or governors, and counsell, of our said kingdome of Ireland, for the tyme being, be by their order disfranchised, and from thenceforth, incapable, without their lycence, of being made a freeman or member of our said towne of Gallway. AND FURTHER of our more abundant grace, certeyne knowledge and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, wee doe give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, that there be within the said county and towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and the franchises of the same, one guild of merchants of the staple, consisting of one mayor, two constables, and of such a number of merchants of the said towne as the said mayor and constables of the said guild of merchants of the staple, for the tyme being, shall think fitt; and, therefore, wee will, and by this

our charter we doe, for us, our heires and successors, make, constitute and ordeyne Charles Holcroft, esq. mayor of the said guild of merchants of the staple of the said towne of Gallway, to continue from the date of these our lettres patent, to the feast of St. Michaell the archangell, which shall be in the said year of our Lord God 1678; and alsoe wee doe by these presents make, constitute and ordeyne John Flower and Thomas Poole constables of the same guild of merchants, of the staple of the said towne of Gallway, to continue untill the said feast of St. Michaell the archangell, which shall be in the said year of our Lord God 1678; and that after the said feast of St. Michaell the archangell, in the said yeare 1678, the mayor and constables of the said guild of merchants of the staple be yearly ordeyned in manner following: that is to say, the mayor of the said towne of Gallway for the preceding yeare shalbe, and is hereby, appointed to be mayor of the said guild of merchants of the staple, for one year then next following, and noe longer; and the sheriffs of the said towne for the preceding yeare shalbe, and are hereby, appoynted to be constables of the said guild of merchants for one yeare, then next following, and noe longer; and that the mayor and constables, or mayor and one constable, of the said guild of merchants of the staple of the said towne for the tyme being, for ever, shall have full and absolute power and authority, from tyme to tyme, to take and receive all and singular statutes or recognizances of the staple, taken or to be taken in or within the said towne or burrough, and thereupon to certifie the same into our high court of chancery, in our said realme of Ireland, and further to doe and execute all and singular other matters and things which doe any wise belonge or apperteyne to the office of mayor and constables of the guild of merchants of the staple, according to the form of the statute in that case made and provided, in as ample manner and forme as the mayor and constables of the staple in our cittie of Waterford, or in any other towne or cittie within our realme of Ireland, doe use or execute, or heretofore might or could use, doe or execute in any wise.

AND FURTHER of our more ample grace, certeyne knowledge, and meere motion, by and with the advice and con-

sent aforesaid, wee will, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors, that they and their successors for ever shall, and may have and use such severall vestments, ensignes and ornaments, within the said towne and county of the said towne of Gallway, and the franchises of the same, for the honour and dignity of the said towne and county of the said towne of Gallway, and the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne, as the mayor, or sheriffs, burgesses and commonalties of the towne of Gallway, had, or used, or might or could have had or used within the said towne of Gallway, att any tyme before the said three and twentyeth day of October, which was in the said year of our Lord 1641; and that the mayor of the said towne of Gallway, for the tyme being, may have a sword borne before him in all places within the towne and county of the said towne of Gallway, and the franchises of the same, for the greater eminence of the mayoralitie or office of mayor of the said towne, and the authority thereto belonging; and to this end wee, will and by these presents doe grant, that the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors, from tyme to tyme, for ever, may constitute and have one officer, or sword-bearer, to carry the sword before the mayor of the said towne for the tyme being, in manner and forme aforesaid. AND FURTHER wee will, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors, that they and their successors shall and may have, for ever hereafter, within the said towne of Gallway, or the liberties and precincts of the same, one house of common meeting or convocation, which shalbe, and shalbe called, the Tholsell of the towne of Gallway aforesaid; and that it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie, and their successors, and to and for the recorder of the said towne, for the tyme being, or the major part of them, from tyme to tyme, and att all tymes for ever

hereafter, soe often as to them, or the major part of them, shall seeme meete or requisite, to meete or assemble themselves in the aforesaid house, called the Tholsell, or in any other convenient place within the said towne and liberties and precincts thereof; and that the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses, recorder and commonaltie of the said towne, or the major parte of them soe assembled, whereof the said mayor and recorder of the aforesaid towne of Gallway for the tyme being to be two, may and shall have full power and authority, from tyme to tyme, then and there to ordeyne, make, constitute and establish such reasonable lawes, statutes, constitutions, decrees and ordinances whatsoever, as they, or the major parte of them, shall in their discretions see good, wholesome and honest, profitable and necessary, as well for the good rule and government of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, and the liberties and precincts thereof, and of all and singular the officers, members and ministers of the said towne, the liberties and precincts thereof, as alsoe for the declaring, settinge downe and appoynteing in what order, manner and forme the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie, and all other the officers and ministers of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, the liberties and precincts thereof, shall and may, from tyme to tyme, demeane and behave themselves in their severall and respective offices and imployments, and alsoe for the common profit, advantage and good government of the said towne, the liberties and precincts thereof, as alsoe for the better preserveing, governeing and disposing, placeing, setting and letting, of all or any the lands, tenements and hereditaments, which in and by these presents, or otherwise, are or have beene given, granted, assigned or confirmed, or which at any tyme hereafter shalbe given, granted, assigned or confirmed, to the saide mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, as alsoe for the better ordering, governeing and disposing of all and singular other matters, causes and things whatsoever touching or concerning the estate, right, or interest of the said towne of Gallway, the liberties and precincts thereof; and that it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses, re-

corder and commonaltie of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, for the tyme being, or the major parte of them, whereof the said mayor and recorder of the said towne, for the tyme being, to be two, at such tyme and tymes, and soe often as they, or the major parte of them, shall think fitt, to make, ordeyne and establish such lawes, statutes or ordinances as aforesaid, and impose and cesse upon all and every person and persons that shall offend against the said lawes, statutes and ordinances, or any of them, such reasonable paines, penalties, punishments, as to the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses, recorder and commonaltie, for the tyme being, or the major parte of them, as aforesaid, shall seeme requisite and expedient in that behalfe; all and singular which said lawes, statutes and ordinances soe to be made, constituted and ordeyned as afore said, wee will and command to be observed, obeyed and performed, under the paines, penalties and punishments therein to be containd, as aforesaid: PROVIDED that the said lawes, statutes, ordinances paines, penalties and punishments, be reasonable, and not repugnant nor contrary, but agreeable to the lawes, statutes, customes, rights and usages of our said kingdome of Ireland, and unto the rules, orders and directions made and established by our lieutenant and councill of our said kingdome of Ireland, beareing date the three and twentyeth day of September, in the yeare 1672, for the better regulateing of the said corporation of our said towne of Gallway, and the electing of magistrates and officers there. AND WEE FURTHER WILL, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe grant to the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, and their successors, that they and their successors, shall and may, for ever hereafter, have, hold and keepe in the Tholsell of our said towne of Gallway, or in any other convenient place within the said towne, the liberties and precincts thereof, a weekly court of record, on every Tuesday and Friday in the weeke, before the mayor, or his deputy, and the recorder of the said towne, for the tyme being, or his deputy; and that in the said court they may hold and have cognizance of all and all manner of pleas and actions upon the case, deceipts, debts,

accounts, covenants, detinues and trespasses, taking and detayning of goods and chattels, and other contracts whatsoever, for any causes, matters, or things whatsoever arising, happening or growing within our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, the liberties and precincts thereof; and that in the said courts the said mayor and recorder of the said towne, for the tyme being, and their respective deputies, as aforesaid, shall and may cause all and every person and persons against whome such suites, plaintes, actions or demands, as aforesaid, shall be brought, sued, or demanded to be attached, according to the due course and process of law, by their goods and chattels, within the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, the liberties and precincts thereof, or shall and may cause the bodies of such persons soe arrested to be committed and sent to prison; and by and according to the like due course and process of law, shall and may heare and determine all and singular such pleas, actions, plaintes, suites and demands, and cause execution to be thereof made, in as ample manner and forme as hath beene done, used and accustomed, or might or ought to have beene done, used and accustomed in any court of record now, or at any time heretofore, holden or kept within our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, or in any court of record now or at any tyme heretofore holden or kept in any citie, borrough or towne incorporated within our said kingdome of Ireland.

AND our further will and pleasure is, and wee doe by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, grant, restore, ratifie and confirm to the aforesaid mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, all the mannors, messuages, houses, chantries, lands, tenements, wastes, waste grounds, commons, pastures, purprestures, reversions, rents, services and hereditaments whatsoever, which in and upon the two and twentyeth day of October, in the yeare of our Lord 1641, were lawfully held, possessed or enjoyed by the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway in their politique capacity, and alsoe all

liberties, franchises, free customs, immunities, usuages, exemptions, easements, jurisdictions, fairs, marketts, courts of pypowder, weyres, fishings, waters, weyes, wharfes, keyes, customes, tolls, pckage, stallage, passage, pontage, paveage, goods and chattels wayved, straves, treasure-trove, profitts, commodities, advantages, benefitts, emoluments, liberties, power, authorities, priviledges, duties, rights and hereditaments, lawfully had, held, used, received, possessed and enjoyed by the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, in or upon the said two and twentyeth day of October, in the yeare of our Lord God 1641, by force and virtue of any charters or letters patents heretofore made, granted or confirmed by any of our royal predecessors, late kings and queens of England, by whatsoever name or names, or by whatsoever incorporation they have been incorporated or knowne, or by force and virtue of any lawfull right, title or acquisition, purchase, usage, custome, prescription, or other lawfull meanes whatsoever, although they are or any of them have beene abused, disused or discontinued: wherefore wee will, and by these presents for us, our heires and successors, doe strictly enjoyne and command, that the mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, shall and may fully, freely and entirely have, hold, use and enjoy all liberties, free customes, priviledges, authorities, jurisdictions, freedoms, mannors, messuages, chauntries, lands, tenements, commons, pastures, fishings, wieres and hereditaments aforesaid, according to the tenor, effect, true intent, and meaneing of these our letters patents, without the lett, impeachment or hindrance of us, our heires or successors, or any of the officers or ministers of us, our heires or successors whatsoever, willing that the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, or their successors, or any of them, be not, at any tyme hereafter, impleaded, molested, vexed, greeved, or any wise troubled for, or by reason of, the premises, or any of them, by us, our heires or successors, or the justices, sheriffs, escheators, bayliffs, coroners, or other officers or members

whatsoever, of us, our heires or successors: **SAVEING**, nevertheless, to every person and persons, their heires and assignes, who have or claime any lands, tenements or hereditaments formerly belonging to the said corporation of Gallway, in their politique capacity, by force and virtue of any letters patents, under the greate seale of Ireland, grounded on any certificates passed by our late commissioners of our court of claymes sitting in Dublin, all such estate, right, tytle and interest as they, their heires and assignes have, or ought to have, in law or equity, of, in and unto such lands, tenements and hereditaments, by force and virtue of such certificates and letters patents made unto them in manner as aforesaid: **SAVEING** alsoe unto Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, the widow and relict of James Hamilton, esqre. one of the groomes of our bed-chamber, lately deceased, her heires and assignes, all such estate, right, title and interest as shee and they have in and unto any the lands, tenements and hereditaments formerly belonging unto the said corporation of Gallway, and which were lately granted by us unto the said Elizabeth, her heires and assignes, by certeyne letters patents, under our greate seale of Ireland, beareing date the 5th day of December, which was in the five and twentyeth yeare of our reigne: saving alsoe unto collonell Theodorus Russell, his heires and assignes, all such estate, right, tytle and interest, as the said Theodorus Russell, as assignee to the said Elizabeth Hamilton, hath or ought to have, in law or equity, in and unto the duties, customes, fees and perquisites of the marketts of Gallway, together with the market-house there, lately mortgaged by the corporation of Gallway to John Blake, esqre. late recorder of Gallway, for the sume of £400 sterling, and in and unto the charter and petty customes of Gallway, lately mortgaged by the said corporation unto Nicholas Blake and Gregory Lynch, and others, for the sum of £2,000 sterling, all which said charter, marketts, petty duties and customes, were lately, amongst other things, granted by us unto the said Elizabeth Hamilton, her heires and assignes, in manner as aforesaid, and by her assigned, articulated and agreed to be assigned unto the said Theodorus Rus-

sell, his heires and assignes, for a greate and valuable consideration layd out and paid by him for the same, at the instance and desire of the said corporation: **AND**, therefore, our will and pleasure is, and wee do hereby ordeyne and appoint, that the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway, doe accordingly, for themselves and their successors, covenant, promise, grant and agree to and with us, our heires and successors, that neither they, the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty, nor their successors, nor any of them, nor any person or persons whatsoever claymeing the premises, or any parte thereof, by, from or under them, or any of them, or by and with their privity or procure, shall or will, by virtue of these presents, or otherwise, demand, levye, collect or receive any of the charter, markett and petty duties or customes aforesaid, or any of them, or wittingly or willingly interrupt, molest or disturb, or give any interruption or disturbance, at any time, unto the said Theodorus Russell, his heires or assignes, or his or their agent and receivers, in levying, collecting and receiving the aforesaid charter, markett and petty duties and customes, and every of them, untill he and they shall have first levyed, collected and received out of all and singular the issues, perquisites and profits which shall arrise out of the said charter, markett and petty duties and customes of the said towne of Gallway, to his and their own use, the full and entire sume of £2500 sterling, which hath beene expended by him in purchaseing in said charter, markett and petty duties and customes from the said Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, in manner as aforesaid; and alsoe all such other other summe and sumes of money as he, the said Theodorus Russell, shall upon oath account to have expended and layd out in and concerning the same, and untill the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonalty of our said towne and county of our towne of Gallway shall likewise have satisfied and paid unto the said Theodorus Russell, either out of the issues and profits of the said charter, markett and petty duties and customes aforesaid, or otherwise, the full sume of £300 sterling over and above his disbursement, as a reasonable compensation of his greate paines and

trouble undergone on the behalfe and for the good of that corporation; and from and after such satisfaction of the sumes aforesaid to the said Theodorus Russell, his heires and assignes, the said charter, markett and petty duties and customes of the said towne to remaine to the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne, and their successors, to such uses whereunto the same were by any former charter of the said towne granted or designed. AND our further will and pleasure is, and wee doe hereby will and require our lieutenant, deputy, and every other, our chiefe governor and goevrnours of our said realme of Ireland, and our privy counsell there, for the tyme being, that they, and every of them, doe take care that the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of our said towne of Gallway, and their successors, doe duely and truly observe, performe, fulfill and keepe the severall articles and agreements by them made with us for satisfying the said Theodorus Russell in manner as aforesaid, and that they pursue all fitting meanes for his securitie, and keepe him in the quiett and full possession of the said duties and customes, either by an annual electing of him into the office or place of mayor of the said corporation, in succession, untill he be satisfied all and singular the aforesaid sumes and engagements, or otherwise by such other reasonable or fitting wayes and meanes as they shall judge to be most expedient and conducing to the end and purposes aforesaid.

AND FURTHER of our more ample grace, certayne knowledge and meere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee doe, by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of the said towne and county of the towne of Gallway, and their successors for ever, that these our letters patents, or the enrollment thereof, and every clause and article therein conteyned, shalbe construed, interpreted and adjudged to the greatest advantage, benefitt and favour of the said mayor, sheriffs, free burgesses and commonaltie of our said towne and county of our town of Gallway, and their successors, against us, our heires and successors, as well as in all our courts in our

said kingdome of Ireland as elsewhere wheresoever, without any other confirmation, license or tolleration hereafter to be procured or obteyned, notwithstanding any defect or defects whatsoever in these our letters patents, or any other cause, matter or thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof, although noe express mention, etc., and wee further will, etc., without fine in our hanaper, etc., provided alwise that these our letters patents be enrolled in the rolls of our high court of chancery in our said kingdome of Ireland, within the space of six months next ensuing the date of these presents; any statute, etc., in witness whereof wee have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness our aforesaid lieutenant generall and generall governor of our said kingdome of Ireland, at Dublin, the 14th day of August, in the nine and twentyeth yeare of our reygne.

Irrot 21^o. die Augusti anno regni Regis Caroli. II. viccimo nono.

NUMBER IX.

Articles of Galway exemplified and confirmed by their Majesties King William and Queen Mary.

Gulielmus et Maria Dei gratia, Anglie, Scocie, Francie et Hibernie, Rex et Regina, fidei defensores, &c. Omnibus ad quos præsentis litere nostre pervenerint, salutem. Inspeximus irrotulamentum quarumdam literarum patentium, de confirmatione gerenda, et apud Westmonasterium 17 die Februarii ultimo preterito, in curia cancellaria nostra, irrotulata ac ibidem recorda remanente in hæc verba.— William and Mary, by the grace of God, &c. To all whom these presents shall come, greeting. — WHEREAS certain articles, bearing date the one and twentyeth day of July last past, were made and agreed upon by our trusty and well beloved Godert, baron de Ginckel, lieutenant-general and commander in chief of our forces in our kingdom of Ireland, and the constable and governor of our town of Galway, in our said kingdom, whereby our said general promises that we should ratifie these capitulations within the space of three months from the date hercof, or sooner, the tenor of

which said articles is as followeth, viz :

Articles granted to the town and garrison of Galway by lieutenant-general Ginkel, commander in chief of their majesties' forces, the 21st of July, 1691.

I. That the town and fort of Galway shall be given up to his excellency, or such officer as he shall appoint, on Sunday morning next, by six of the o'clock, together with all the stores of ammunition and provision, and magazines of all sorts, without embezzlement; and that immediately upon the signing of these articles, such person as the general shall appoint have leave to inspect them.

II. That all deserters that are in the town shall be given up.

III. That immediately after signing these articles, all the out-works of the town shall be delivered to such officers as the general shall appoint to take possession of the same; and that the governor shall withdraw all the cannon from the wall.

IV. That till the town is surrendered as aforesaid, the general may order such works and batteries to be made as he shall judge convenient, provided he doth not bring them within three yards of the wall, nor the guns within ten yards of the batteries; and that in the town they shall not proceed to work to fortify the same any further.

V. In consideration of the said rendition, his excellency gives leave to lieutenant-general D'Ussone, Monsieur Metlett, commissary of war, and the rest of the French officers and soldiers, and others of that nation, now in Galway, to go to Limerick, with their arms, bagg and baggage, whither they shall be safely conducted the nearest way; and, in case that the said lieutenant-general D'Ussone shall want horses to carry his equipage thither, the general will furnish him with them.

VI. That such of the garrison as desire it may remain in town, or go to their respective homes, and enjoy the benefit of this capitulation; and the rest shall march to Limerick, with their arms, six pieces of cannon, drums beating, colours flying, match lighted, bullet in mouth, and as much ammunition and provisions as each officer and soldier can carry with him; and that they shall be furnished with draft horses and harness for their guns

if they want them, which said guns they shall have liberty to choose, provided they take none above twelve pounders.

VII. That the wounded and sick officers may stay in the town till they are cured; and that then they shall be sent to Limerick with a safe conduct, and, in the mean time, shall be provided in town with necessaries for their cure and subsistence.

VIII. That the governor, constable, mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, burgesses, freemen and natives of Galway, and the inhabitants thereof, or the reputed ones by any former charter or reputed charter of king James II. granted before his abdication, or any of his ancestors, shall have a general pardon of all attainders, outlawries, treasons, felonies, premunires, and all manner of offences committed since the beginning of the said king James's reign to the date hereof.

IX. That all and every of the garrison, officers, governor, constable, mayor, sheriffs, aldermen, burgesses, freemen and inhabitants aforesaid, shall enjoy and possess their estates, real and personal, and all other liberties and immunities, as they held or ought to have held under the acts of settlement and explanation, or otherwise, by the laws of the kingdom, freely discharged from all crown rents, quit rents and all other charges, to the date hereof.

X. That the names of the Roman Catholic clergy of the town of Galway be given to the general on or before Tuesday of the said town, shall have the private exercise of their religion, and that the said clergy shall be protected in their persons and goods.

XI. That the gentlemen of estates, now belonging to the town and garrison of Galway, shall have liberty to keep a gun in their houses for the defence of the same, and wear a sword and case of pistols if they think fit.

XII. That all Roman Catholic lawyers of the said town shall have the free liberty of practice that they had in king Charles the Second's time.

XIII. That such of the officers belonging to any of the regiments that are now in Galway, and not present at the signing of these capitulations, shall have the benefit of the same, provided they shall submit within three weeks to the governor of Galway, for the time being, who shall be appointed by the general; or, that they shall have a safe conduct to go to

Limerick, in the same manner as the said garrison hath.

XIV. That such other persons now in town as desire to go out with the garrison, or such part thereof as goes to Limerick, shall have liberty to do so, and carry their families and goods along with them; and that such officers' wives, belonging to the said garrison, as are there, or in any part of Connaught, may, at the same time, depart with their goods, or at any other convenient time afterwards, particularly colonel Edmund Ryley's wife, mother and family, the lady Eveagh and her daughter, and lieutenant colonel Luke Ryley, his brother Philip Ryley, their wives and families.

XV. That immediately all acts of hostility shall cease on both sides; and that if it shall happen that any provoking language shall pass between the soldiers, they shall be punished by their respective officers for the same, and not permitted to fire one upon another.

XVI. That for the due performance of these articles, the governor shall immediately give the persons undernamed for hostages:

Earl of Clanricarde.
Lord Inniskillen.
Colonel Dominick Browne.
Lieutenant-colonel Bodkin.
Major Dillon.

Lastly, the general promises to have these capitulations ratified by their majesties, within the space of three months from the date hereof, or sooner if possible.

Signed and sealed, the day above mentioned, by the commander in chief of their majesties' forces, and the constable and governor of the said town interchangeably.

Baron de Ginckell.

The other part by { Dillon.
Clanricarde.
Inniskillen.

Signed and sealed, in the presence of,
Dominick Browne. Oliver O'Gara.
John Bodkin. William Bourke.
Thomas Dillon. Anthony O'Dogherty
James Skelton. Robert Lynch.
James O'Bryan. Bryan O'Neile.
Hugh Dogherty. Hugh O'Neile.
John Stephenson. John Dogherty.

And whereas the said town of Galway

hath been since, in pursuance of the said articles, surrendered unto us; know ye that we, having considered of the said articles, are graciously pleased hereby to declare that we do, as far as in us lies, ratify and confirm the same, and every clause, matter and thing therein contained; and as to such part thereof for which an act of parliament shall be found to be necessary, we shall recommend the same to be made good by parliament, and shall give our royal assent to any bill or bills that shall be passed by our two houses of parliament for that purpose: Provided always, and our will and pleasure is, that these our letters patents shall be enrolled in our court of chancery in our said kingdom of Ireland, within one year next ensuing. — In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness ourselves, at Westminster, the 17th day of February, in the fourth year of our reign.

Per breve de privato sigillo.

Snow.

Nos autem tenorem præmissorum prædictorum ad requisitionem attornati generalis Domini, Regis et Dominae Reginae pro regno Hyberniae duximus exemplificandum, per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri facimus patentes. Testibus nobis ipsis apud Westmonasterium, quinto Aprilis, anno regni eorum quarto.

Bridges.

Examinatur. { S. Keck. } In Cancel.
per nos, { Lacon Wm. } Magistros.
Childe. }

Inrolled 4th February, fourth year of William and Mary, part 2, immediately before the Articles of Limerick.

NUMBER X.

A Schedule of all such Ingate and Outgate Customes, Tolls and other Duties, which, by agreement between the Corporation and Merchants of the Town of Galway, are for the future to be paid in lieu of the former Tolls and Customs.

Martis 13^o. die Aprilis, 1726.

Out of every Winchester barrel containing four bushels or twenty stones of wheat, to pay 2d. and so in proportion

for a lesser quantity. Every such barrel of bere, barley, malt, or meal of barley or bere, to pay 1d. and so in proportion for a lesser quantity. Every such barrel of oats, or fourteen stones, or four bushels of oatmeal, 1d. and so in proportion for a lesser quantity. The above to be paid in lieu of the tolls hitherto taken out of said grain or meal. All the above grain or meal to pay, besides ingateage, one halfpenny per barrel; the said grain and meal to pay, according to act of parliament, per barrel for weighing, provided the same be weighed. All corn bought in the country by malsters, or any other private persons, to pay 1d. per barrel gateage or custom, and no other duty, provided it is not weighed in the market-house: the malsters to be sworn before the mayor to give a just return of all bere, oats and barley, at the request of the toll-gatherers. For every cow, bullock, bull or ox to be slaughtered for market, to pay 2d. For every cow, bullock, bull or ox slaughtered for exportation, to pay 1d. For every sheep to be slaughtered for market to pay one halfpenny, and the same for veal. For every carcass of beef slaughtered within the liberties, and brought into town to be sold, to pay 2d. and those without the liberties to pay 3d. For every sheep to be slaughtered within the liberties, and brought into the town to be sold, to pay 1d. For every calf one farthing. For every large hog 1d. For every small hog one halfpenny. For every goat 1d. For every kid one halfpenny, and for every lamb one halfpenny. For every raw hide brought into the town to be sold, or to be sold in the suburbs, 1d. For every tanned hide brought into the town to be sold, or to be sold in the suburbs, 1d. No custom for the tanned hides tanned within the suburbs, bought of tanners living within the suburbs, or brought into the town to be sworn before the mayor. For every hundred weight of rendered tallow brought into the town to be sold to pay 2d. every half hundred 1d. less to pay in proportion. For every hundred weight cask of butter 1d. For a large cask of butter 2d. and so in proportion. For every bag of wool, five hundred weight, 4d. For every bag of ditto from three hundred to five hundred weight 3d. For every bag of ditto from one hundred to three hundred weight 2d. For every

single stone 1d. and so in proportion downwards.—N.B. custom for feathers as for wool.—For every bag of hops to be sold 3d. For every pocket of hops 2d. For every half bag of ditto 2d. For every horse-load of bark to be sold at the market 1d. For every horse-load of ditto to be delivered to the tanners one halfpenny. For every hogshead of wine or spirits brought into the town by land carriage to pay 3d. For every pipe or butt of ditto to pay 6d. For every quarter cask or half hogshead of ditto to pay 2d. For every hogshead of cider to be sold 2d. For every hogshead of porter 3d. For every hogshead of oil 3d. For every half ditto 2d. For every hundred stones of Spanish iron 1s. and less in proportion. For every load of fish going into the country to pay 1d.; a lesser quantity to pay one halfpenny. For every car-load of soap to pay 3d. For every load of soap to pay 2d. For every car-load of merchants' goods coming from any other province and brought into the town to pay 3d. and no more. For every car-load of goods not specified in this schedule, and which has hitherto paid custom coming from the province of Connaught into the town, to pay 1d. and no more. For every car-load of goods going out of the gates to pay 2d. and every horse-load to pay 1½d.; nothing under fifty pounds weight to pay any thing.

All the aforesaid duties and gateage are agreed to be given in lieu for, and so long as no charter duties shall be demanded by the corporation on goods imported into said town, or exported from it, and no longer, it being the intent to ease and improve the trade of said town, for the mutual advantage of both town and country, to establish peace and harmony in said town, as also to declare that no goods imported or exported by sea to or from Galway, and which shall pay the king's duties, shall be chargeable with any ingate customs, tolls or duties, (fish as aforesaid only excepted;) neither are any provisions coming into or going out of said town, for the private use of any resident in said town, to pay any gateage, custom, toll or duty; neither shall there be any gateage, custom, toll or duty paid for any turf, milk, eggs, poultry, fresh butter in rolls or prints, hay or straw; nor shall any fish coming from the Claddagh, to be sold in the

public fish-market, be liable or charge- of boards to pay nothing; five to pay one able with any custom, toll or duty of any halfpenny, ten one penny, fifteen three kind, either at the gate or at the market. halfpence, and a carload two-pence. Timber of all kinds going into the town, Liquors under a dozen bottles to pay no- or for the use of the town, for ships r thing, and to pay one farthing a dozen boats, are to pay nothing; small parcels if under a horse-load.—Com. Jour.



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